



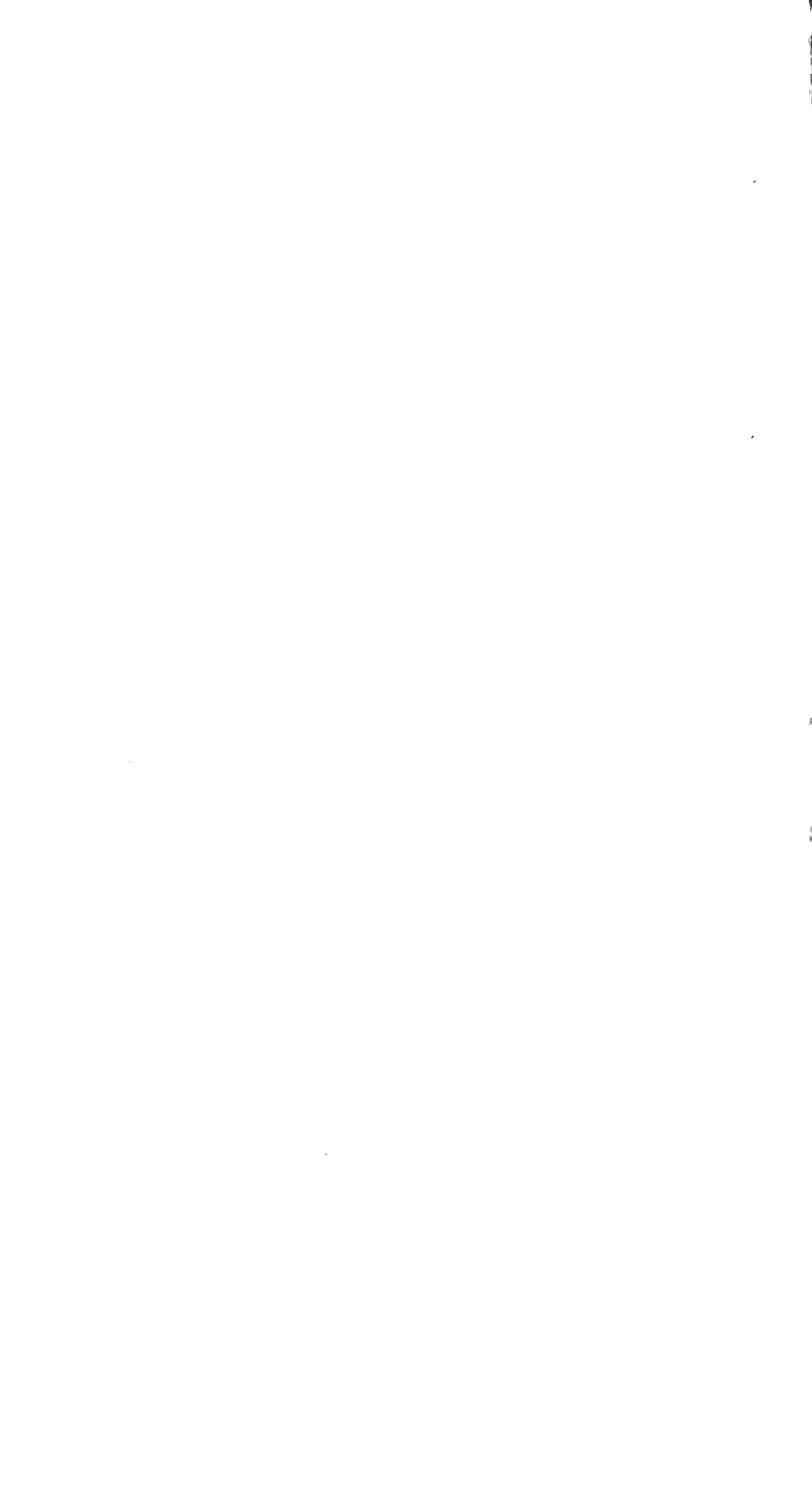


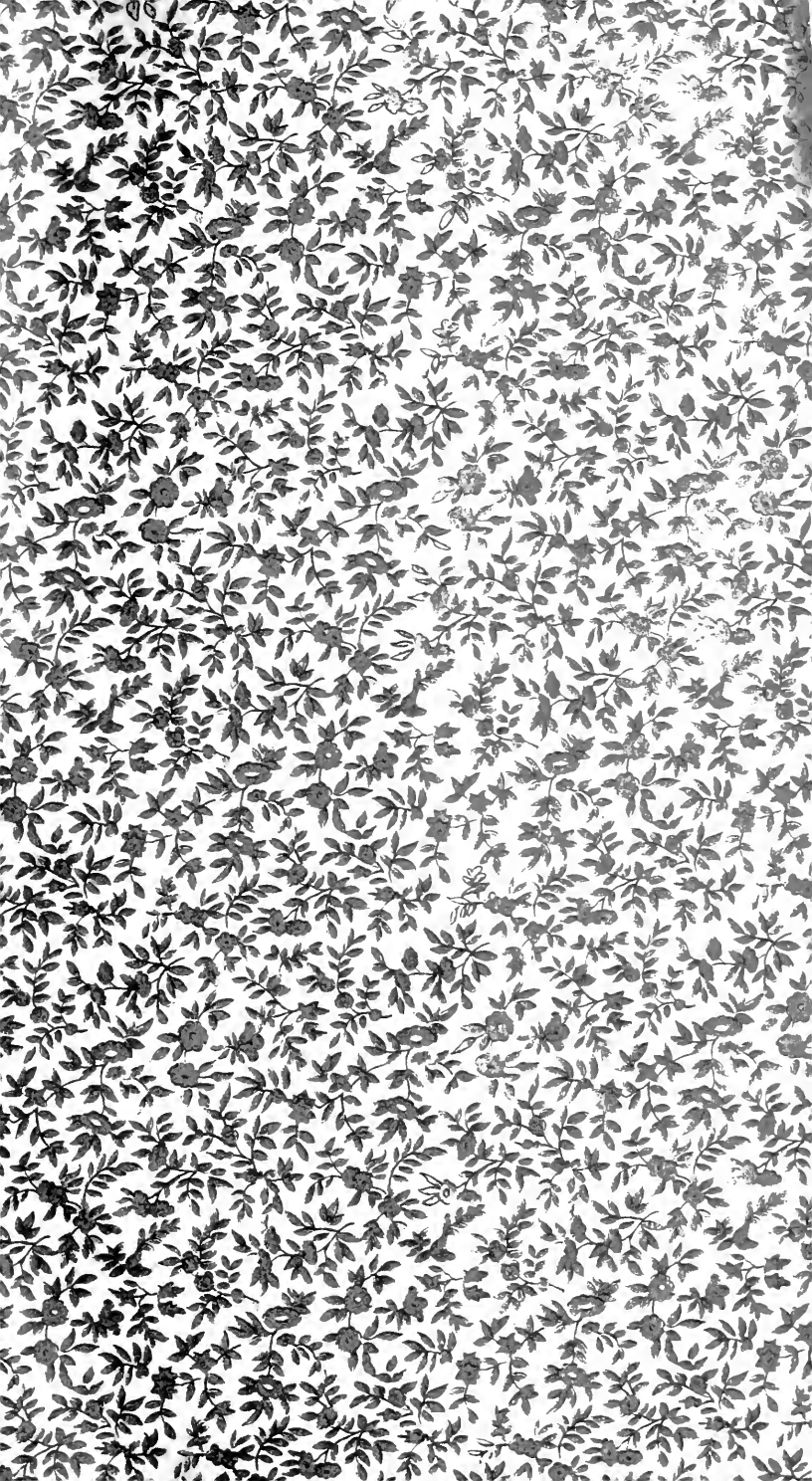
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PROCEEDINGS OF THE GRAND LODGE
OF
Ancient Free and Accepted Masons
OF CANADA, IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO,
AT
ESPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS

HELD AT

*Jarvis, 27th July, A. L. 5897, Walkerton,
12th August, A. L. 5897, East Toronto.
26th August, A. L. 5897, Ottawa, 19th
May, A. L. 5898, and Highgate,
22nd June, A. L. 5898,*

ALSO AT THE

FORTY - THIRD ANNUAL COMMUNICATION
HELD AT THE CITY OF TORONTO.

ON THE

20th and 21st July, A. D. 1898, A.L. 5898.



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SPECTATOR PRINTING CO., LIMITED.
1898.



GRAND LODGE OF CANADA

IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

PROCEEDINGS

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, in the Village of Jarvis, on Tuesday, the 27th day of July, A. D. 1897, A. L. 1897.

PRESENT :

- | | | |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------|
| M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, M. P..... | Grand Master. | |
| R. W. Bro. T. R. Atkinson, D. D. G. M.... | Deputy Grand Master. | |
| R. W. Bro. S. F. Passmore..... | Grand Senior Warden. | |
| W. Bro. D. Thompson..... | as Grand Junior Warden. | |
| W. Bro. Rev. F. C. Piper..... | as Grand Chaplain. | |
| V. W. Bro. Jas. Old..... | as Grand Treasurer. | |
| W. Bro. Henry Fawcett..... | as Grand Registrar. | |
| R. W. Bro. W. Jaques, M. D..... | as Grand Secretary. | |
| W. Bro. C. Morgan..... | as Grand Senior Deacon. | |
| W. Bro. D. Hill..... | as Grand Junior Deacon. | |
| W. Bro. G. R. Powell..... | as Grand Dir. of Cer. | |
| W. Bro. Jas. Duncan..... | as Asst. Grand Secretary. | |
| W. Bro. David Swing..... | as Grand Sword Bearer. | |
| W. Bro. G. McGraw..... | as Grand Organist. | |
| W. Bro. John Hair..... | as Grand Pursuivant. | |
| Bro. Bryce Allen..... | } | |
| Bro. R. W. Smith..... | | |
| Bro. J. B. McMicken..... | | |
| Bro. A. Slater..... | | |
| Bro. R. Rodgers..... | | |
| Bro. J. P. Geddes..... | | |
| W. Bro. Isaac Jacques..... | | as Grand Stewards. |
| Bro. G. Snyder..... | | |
| Bro. Jas Benfield..... | | |
| Bro. W. A. Flack..... | | |
| Bro. T. E. Cresswell..... | } | |
| Bro. Frank Hartwell..... | | |
| Bro. R. Easton..... | as Grand Tyler. | |

Together with Masters, Past Masters, Wardens and Brethren hailing from various lodges.

A constitutional number of lodges being represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in *ample form*, at 2.30 o'clock p. m., in the Masonic Hall, by the M. W. the Grand Master, who announced that this special communication of Grand Lodge had been called for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of "St. Paul's" Church (Anglican).

The brethren acting as Grand Lodge officers having received the necessary directions, the Grand Lodge was called off, and a procession formed, under the direction of W. Bro. G. R. Powell, acting Grand Director of Ceremonies, and marched to the site in prescribed order, taking their proper positions at the north-east corner of the building.

The acting Grand Chaplain then asked a blessing, and the acting Grand Superintendent of Works read the following scroll :

**In the Name and by the Favor of the Great Architect of
the Universe,**

On the Twenty-Seventh Day of July, A. D. One Thousand Eight
Hundred and Ninety-Seven, A. L. Five Thousand Eight
Hundred and Ninety-Seven, the sixty-first year
of Our Gracious Sovereign

Victoria,

Queen of Great Britain and Ireland and the Dependencies in Asia,
Europe, Africa, Australasia, Dominion of Canada, etc.,

His Excellency the RIGHT HONORABLE JOHN CAMPBELL
HAMILTON GORDON, Earl of Aberdeen,
Being Governor General of Canada,

Lieut.-Colonel the Hon. G. A. KIRKPATRICK, being Lieutenant
Governor of the Province of Ontario,

The Right Hon. Sir WILFRID LAURIER, being Premier of the
Dominion of Canada,

The Hon. ARTHUR S. HARDY, being Premier of the Province
of Ontario,

The Hon. E. J. DAVIS, being Provincial Secretary,

M. W. Bro. WM. GIBSON, M. P., being Grand Master of the Grand
Lodge of Canada, A. F. & A. M., in the Province of Ontario,

R. W. Bro. C. H. CONNOR, D. D. G. M. of the 10th Masonic District,

This Corner Stone

OF ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

was laid by M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, M. P., Grand Master of the
Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, assisted by the Grand
Officers and in presence of a large concourse of brethren and
citizens, with the usual ceremonies of the Order.

The acting Grand Treasurer then deposited the scroll in the
cavity in the stone, together with a box containing the scroll
and certain newspapers and records.

A beautiful silver trowel, suitably inscribed, was presented
to the M. W. the Grand Master, by Mrs. C. E. Bourne, on
behalf of the ladies of the congregation.

The Grand Wardens and the Deputy Grand Master applied the implements of their offices to the stone, after it had been placed in position, and announced that the craftsmen had done their duty.

The M. W. the Grand Master then consecrated the stone with CORN, WINE AND OIL, and pronounced it :

WELL MADE, TRULY LAID, WELL PROVED, TRUE AND TRUSTY.

The procession was then reformed, the brethren returned to the Masonic Hall, and Grand Lodge was closed in AMPLE FORM.

Immediately after closing of Grand Lodge the brethren present were entertained by Mrs. Sill, at her residence.

ATTEST :



J. J. Maxon
Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA

IN THE PROVINCE OF CANADA.

PROCEEDINGS

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, in the Town of Walkerton, on Thursday, the 12th day of August, A. D. 1897, A. L. 5897.

PRESENT :

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, M. P. | Grand Master. |
| R. W. Bro. D. H. Martyn | as Deputy Grand Master. |
| R. W. Bro. Thos. Pinkerton | as Grand Senior Warden. |
| V. W. Bro. C. F. Harris | as Grand Junior Warden. |
| Bro. Rev. S. F. Robinson | as Grand Chaplain. |
| R. W. Bro. Thos. Wilson | as Grand Treasurer. |
| V. W. Bro. J. Shaw | as Grand Registrar. |
| W. Bro. E. Pengelly | as Grand Secretary. |
| W. Bro. D. Clapp | as Grand Senior Deacon. |
| W. Bro. Richard Dowling | as Grand Junior Deacon. |
| R. W. Bro. W. R. Telford | as Grand Supt. of Works. |
| W. Bro. H. Clarke | as Grand Dir. of Cer. |
| W. Bro. J. Standish | as Asst. Grand Secretary. |
| W. Bro. H. Birss .. | as Grand Sword Bearer. |
| W. Bro. R. E. Biggar .. | as Grand Organist. |
| W. Bro. G. J. Dickinson | as Asst. Grand Organist. |
| W. Bro. H. Graef .. | as Grand Pursuivant. |
| Bro. Wm. Roberts |) as Grand Stewards. |
| Bro. Jas. Dundas | |
| V. W. Bro. A. McDonald .. | |
| Bro. W. Montgomery | |
| Bro. W. Henderson | |
| V. W. Bro. David Nicol | |
| Bro. John Sutherland | |
| Bro. J. E. MacKenzie | |
| Bro. C. Elder | |
| Bro. W. M. Young | |
| Bro. Geo. Huck | as Grand Tyler. |

Together with Masters, Past Masters, Wardens and Brethren hailing from various lodges.

A constitutional number of lodges being represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in *ample form*, at 2 o'clock p. m., in the Masonic Hall, by the M. W. the Grand Master, who announced that this special communication of Grand Lodge had been called for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of a new Town Hall.

The brethren acting as Grand Lodge officers having received the necessary directions, the Grand Lodge was called off, and a procession formed, under the direction of W. Bro. H. Clark, acting Grand Director of Ceremonies, and marched to the site in prescribed order, taking their proper positions at the north-east corner of the building.

The acting Grand Chaplain then asked a blessing, and the acting Grand Superintendent of Works read the following scroll :

In the Name and by the Favor of the Great Architect of the Universe,

On the twelfth day of August, A. D., 1897, A. A., 5897, the Sixty-first year of the reign of Our Gracious Sovereign

Victoria,

Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, Empress of India and Dependencies in Asia, Europe, Africa, Australasia, Dominion of Canada, etc.

The Right Honorable Sir JOHN CAMPBELL HAMILTON GORDON, Earl of Aberdeen, being Governor General of Canada.

Sir GEORGE AIREY KIRKPATRICK, K. C. M. G., being Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Ontario.

The Right Honorable Sir WILFRID LAURIER, K. C. M. G., being Premier of the Dominion of Canada.

The Honorable ARTHUR STURGIS HARDY, being Premier of Ontario.

HENRY CARGILL, Esquire, being M. P., for the East Riding of the County of Bruce.

RUBEN ELDRIGE TRUAX, Esquire, being M. L. A. for the South Riding of the County of Bruce.

JAMES SHOULDICE, Esquire, being Warden of the Municipal Corporation of the County of Bruce.

MALCOLM STALKER, Esquire, M. D., being Reeve of the Town of Walkerton.

HUGH BIRSS, being Deputy Reeve of the Town of Walkerton.

Messrs. C. W. CRYDERMAN, T. ELLIOTT, P. HEFFERMAN, J. V. JOHNSTON, F. LIPPERT, S. H. MCKAY, J. PLEWS, JOHN STANDISH and J. J. WISSER, being Councillors of the Town of Walkerton.

ARTHUR R. DENNISON, Architect.

HENRY CLARK, Builder.

Most Worshipful Brother WILLIAM GIBSON, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, in the Province of Ontario.

Right Worshipful Brother THOMAS PINKERTON, District Deputy Grand Master of the Fifth Masonic District.

This Corner Stone

OF THE "VICTORIA JUBILEE HALL"

was laid by Most Worshipful Brother William Gibson, Grand Master, assisted by the Grand Officers and in presence of a large concourse of brethren and citizens of the Town of Walkerton and County of Bruce.

The acting Grand Superintendent of Works deposited the scroll in the cavity of the stone, and the acting Grand Treasurer deposited the vial containing the coins of the Dominion of Canada together with a history of the town from its commencement to the present time, by Norman Robertson, Esq., County Treasurer; present history of the town, by Michael McNamara, Esq., J. P. Collector of Customs; copies of the Toronto Globe, the Toronto Mail and Empire, Toronto World, the Bruce Herald, Walkerton Telescope and Ontario Glocke, Voters' List of the Town and Town By-laws.

A beautiful silver trowel, suitably inscribed, was presented to the M. W. the Grand Master by Bro. Malcolm Stalker, Chairman of the Building Committee, on behalf of the Mayor and Corporation of the Town.

The Grand Wardens and the Deputy Grand Master applied the implements of their offices to the stone, after it had been placed in position, and announced that the Craftsmen had done their duty.

The M. W. the Grand Master then consecrated the stone with CORN, WINE AND OIL, and pronounced it:

WELL MADE, TRULY LAID, WELL PROVED, TRUE AND TRUSTY.

After the ceremony addresses were delivered by the M. W. the Grand Master and others.

The procession was then reformed, the brethren returned to the lodge room, and Grand Lodge was closed in AMPLE FORM.

ATTEST:



J. J. Maxon

Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

PROCEEDINGS

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, in the Town of East Toronto, on Thursday, the 26th day of August, A. D. 1897, A. L. 5897.

PRESENT :

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, M. P..... | Grand Master. |
| R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone | Deputy Grand Master. |
| R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf..... | as Grand Senior Warden. |
| R. W. Bro. A. A. S. Ardagh | Grand Junior Warden. |
| R. W. Bro. R. Dinnis | as Grand Chaplain. |
| W. Bro. John Parsell..... | as Grand Treasurer. |
| W. Bro. W. R. Walters..... | as Grand Registrar. |
| W. Bro. John Richardson..... | as Grand Secretary. |
| W. Bro. John Watson..... | as Grand Senior Deacon. |
| W. Bro. Alex. Gillies | as Grand Junior Deacon. |
| Bro. J. A. Ellis | as Grand Supt. of Works. |
| W. Bro. M. P. McMaster | as Grand Dir. of Cer. |
| W. Bro. Ira Bates..... | as Grand Sword Bearer. |
| W. Bro. N. L. Steiner | as Asst. Grand Secretary. |
| W. Bro. J. E. Hansford | as Grand Organist. |
| V. W. Bro. R. J. Pujolas..... | as Asst. Grand Organist. |
| Bro. R. E. Bailley | as Grand Pursuivant. |
| V. W. Bro. S. Beaumont | Grand Steward. |
| Bro. A. E. Gault..... | as Grand Steward. |
| Bro. J. Barker | as Grand Steward. |
| Bro. T. W. Barber | as Grand Steward. |
| Bro. J. S. Williams | as Grand Steward. |
| W. Bro. W. H. Grant..... | as Grand Steward. |
| Bro. G. Trebilcock..... | as Grand Tyler. |

Together with Masters, Past Masters, Wardens and Brethren hailing from various lodges.

A constitutional number of lodges being represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in *ample form*, at 2.30 o'clock p. m., in the Masonic Hall, by the M. W. the Grand Master, who announced that this special communication of Grand Lodge had been called for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of a new Public School.

The brethren acting as Grand Lodge officers having received the necessary directions, the Grand Lodge was called off, and a procession formed, under the direction of W. Bro. J. M. Stewart, acting Grand Director of Ceremonies, and marched

to the site in prescribed order, taking their proper positions at the north-east corner of the building.

The acting Grand Chaplain then asked a blessing, and the acting Grand Superintendent of works read the scroll.

The acting Grand Treasurer then deposited the scroll in the cavity in the stone, together with a box containing the scroll and certain newspapers and records.

A handsome silver trowel, suitably inscribed, was presented to the M. W. the Grand Master, by the W. M. of Acacia Lodge, No. 430.

The Grand Wardens and the Deputy Grand Master applied the implements of their offices to the stone, after it had been placed in position, and announced that the craftsmen had done their duty.

The M. W. the Grand Master then consecrated the stone with CORN, WINE AND OIL, and pronounced it :

WELL MADE, TRULY LAID, WELL PROVED, TRUE AND TRUSTY.

The procession was then reformed, the brethren returned to the Masonic Hall, and Grand Lodge was closed in AMPLE FORM.

ATTEST :



J. J. Maxon

Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA

IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

PROCEEDINGS

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall in the City of Ottawa, on Thursday, the 19th May, A. D. 1898, A. L. 5898.

PRESENT :

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, M. P..... | Grand Master. |
| R. W. Bro. E. D. Parlow | as Deputy Grand Master. |
| R. W. Bro. John Walsh | as Grand Senior Warden. |
| R. W. Bro. Fred. Cook | as Grand Junior Warden. |
| Bro. the Rev. W. L. Scott | Grand Chaplain. |
| R. W. Bro. David Taylor..... | as Grand Treasurer. |
| R. W. Bro. Wm. Rea..... | as Grand Secretary. |
| R. W. Bro. E. A. Johnson | as Grand Registrar. |
| R. W. Bro. R. W. Stephen..... | as Grand Senior Deacon. |
| W. Bro. W. Northwood..... | as Grand Junior Deacon. |
| Bro. E. L. Horwood..... | as Grand Supt. of Works. |
| V. W. Bro. H. P. Macdonell..... | as Grand Dir. of Cer. |
| R. W. Bro. R. H. Preston..... | as Grand Asst. Secretary. |
| W. Bro. G. Landerkin, M. P..... | as Grand Sword Bearer. |
| Bro. E. A. Selwyn | as Grand Organist. |
| W. Bro. John McAllister, M. P. | as Asst. Grand Organist. |
| W. Bro. S. C. D. Roper..... | as Grand Pursuivant. |
| W. Bro. W. H. Martin..... | as Grand Steward. |
| W. Bro. A. W. Harris | as Grand Steward. |
| W. Bro. H. Burgess | as Grand Steward. |
| W. Bro. J. W. Turley..... | as Grand Steward. |
| W. Bro. W. Borthwick | as Grand Steward. |
| W. Bro. J. J. Mulligan..... | as Grand Steward. |
| W. Bro. B. F. Bolton.. | as Grand Steward. |
| W. Bro. W. H. Baldwin | as Grand Steward. |
| W. Bro. John Fraser | as Grand Stand'rd Bearer |
| Bro. J. B. Wright | as Grand Tyler. |

Together with Masters, Past Masters and Brethren hailing from the following and other lodges: Dalhousie, No. 52; Doric, No. 58; Civil Service, No. 148; Builders', No. 177; Chaudiere, No. 264; Prince of Wales, No. 371; Lodge of Fidelity, No. 231, Ottawa.

The Grand Lodge was opened in *ample form*, at 8 o'clock p. m., by M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, Grand Master, who announced that this special communication of Grand Lodge had been called for the purpose of consecrating the New Masonic Hall to be occupied by the Ottawa Brethren.

After the usual consecration and dedicatory ceremonies had been conducted by the Grand Master, he delivered an appropriate and instructive address to the large assembly of brethren present.

The Grand Lodge was then closed in AMPLE FORM.

ATTEST:



J. J. Maxon

Grand Secretary.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA

IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

PROCEEDINGS

At an Especial Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, held in the Masonic Hall, in the Village of Highgate, on Wednesday, the 22nd June, A. D. 1898, A. L. 5898.

PRESENT :

| | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| R. W. Bro. J. B. Rankin, D. D. G. M..... | as Grand Master. |
| R. W. Bro. W. R. Hickey..... | as Deputy Grand Master. |
| R. W. Bro. J. A. C. Anderson..... | as Grand Senior Warden. |
| R. W. Bro. H. F. Jell..... | as Grand Junior Warden. |
| W. Bro. Hy. Watson..... | as Grand Chaplain. |
| W. Bro. D. P. McPhail..... | as Grand Treasurer. |
| W. Bro. J. G. Crosby..... | as Grand Registrar. |
| Bro. A. E. Mason..... | as Grand Secretary. |
| W. Bro. John Murray..... | as Grand Senior Deacon. |
| W. Bro. J. H. Retinmier..... | as Grand Junior Deacon. |
| W. Bro. N. W. Ford..... | as Grand Dir. of Cer. |
| W. Bro. J. B. Stinson..... | as Asst. Grand Secretary. |
| W. Bro. P. H. Davey..... | as Asst. Grand Dir. of Cer. |
| W. Bro. S. M. Dorlands..... | as Grand Sword Bearer. |
| W. Bro. John Lee..... | as Grand Organist. |
| W. Bro. Cochrane..... | as Asst. Grand Organist. |
| Bro. E. W. Ward..... |) as Grand Stewards. |
| Bro. Geo. Goswell..... | |
| Bro. Wm. Mattice..... | |
| Bro. E. C. Bury..... | |
| Bro. R. B. Teetzel..... | |
| Bro. E. Bettie..... |) as Grand Tyler. |
| Bro. Thos. Mickle..... | |

Together with Masters, Past Masters, Wardens and brethren hailing from various lodges.

A constitutional number of lodges being represented, Grand Lodge was opened in *due form*, at 1.30 o'clock p. m., in the Masonic Hall, by the acting Grand Master, who announced that this special communication of Grand Lodge was called for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the new Methodist Church.

The brethren acting as Grand Lodge officers having received the necessary directions, the Grand Lodge was called off, and a procession formed, under the direction of W. Bro. N. W. Ford, acting Grand Director of Ceremonies, and marched to

the site in prescribed order, taking their proper positions at the north-east corner of the building.

The acting Grand Chaplain asked a blessing and the scroll was read.

The acting Grand Treasurer then deposited the scroll in the cavity in the stone, together with a box containing Canadian coins and certain newspapers and records.

The Grand Wardens and the Deputy Grand Master applied the implements of their offices to the stone, after it had been placed in position, and announced that the Craftsmen had done their duty.

The M. W. the Grand Master then consecrated the stone with CORN, WINE AND OIL, and pronounced it :

WELL MADE, TRULY LAID, WELL PROVED, TRUE AND TRUSTY.

The procession was then re-formed, the brethren returned to the Masonic Hall, and Grand Lodge was closed in DUE FORM.

ATTEST :



J. J. Maxon

Grand Secretary

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA

IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

PROCEEDINGS

At the Forty-third Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario, held in the City of Toronto, commencing on Wednesday, the 20th day of July, A. D. 1898, A. L. 5898.

PRESENT :

THE GRAND MASTER,

M. W. Bro. William Gibson, M. P., on the Throne.

THE DEPUTY GRAND MASTER,

R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone.

- R. W. Bro. S. F. Passmore, Brantford Grand Senior Warden.
- R. W. Bro. A. A. S. Ardagh, Toronto Grand Junior Warden.
- R. W. Bro. Rev. D. A. Bogart, Belleville.. Grand Chaplain.
- M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, Hamilton Grand Treasurer.
- R. W. Bro. W. A. Bishop, Owen Sound . . . Grand Registrar.
- R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, Hamilton Grand Secretary.
- V. W. Bro. T. A. Simpson, Beamsville . . . Grand Senior Deacon.
- V. W. Bro. W. H. Sills, Chatham Grand Junior Deacon.
- V. W. Bro. R. Buck, Cobourg Grand Supt. of Works.
- V. W. Bro. H. P. Macdonell, Ottawa Grand Dir. of Cer.
- V. W. Bro. John McKnight, Toronto Asst. Grand Secretary.
- V. W. Bro. Wm. Hyndman, Smith's Falls. Asst. Grand Dir. of Cer.
- V. W. Bro. Geo. Thompson, Uxbridge Grand Sword Bearer.
- V. W. Bro. C. P. Sparling, Toronto Grand Organist.
- V. W. Bro. C. L. Merritt, Scotland }
- V. W. Bro. J. R. Hammond, Delaware . . }
- V. W. Bro. S. Beaumont, Georgetown . . } Grand Stewards.
- V. W. Bro. John Wilson, Collingwood . . }
- V. W. Bro. W. A. MacKay, Renfrew . . . }
- Bro. J. H. Pritchard, Toronto Grand Tyler.

THE DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

- R. W. Bro. J. B. Rankin Erie District No. 1
- R. W. Bro. Geo. Sutherland St. Clair District " 2
- R. W. Bro. W. C. Harris London District " 3
- R. W. Bro. J. B. Tiernay South Huron District " 4
- R. W. Bro. T. Pinkerton North Huron District " 5
- R. W. Bro. T. R. Atkinson Wilson District " 6
- R. W. Bro. A. G. Campbell Wellington District . . " 7
- R. W. Bro. C. V. Emory, M. D. Hamilton District " 8
- R. W. Bro. G. M. Aylsworth, M. D. Georgian District " 9
- R. W. Bro. C. H. Connor Niagara District " 10

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|--------|
| R. W. Bro. T. W. Chapple..... | Toronto District.... | No. 11 |
| R. W. Bro. Edward Fitzgerald | Ontario District | " 12 |
| R. W. Bro. A. R. Hargraft..... | Prince Edward Dist.. | " 13 |
| R. W. Bro. Walter Macnee..... | Frontenac District .. | " 14 |
| R. W. Bro. T. A. Stayner | St. Lawrence District | " 15 |
| R. W. Bro. G. E. Josephs, M. D..... | Ottawa District..... | " 16 |
| R. W. Bro. C. F. Farwell | Algoma District | " 17 |
| R. W. Bro. W. H. Howey, M. D..... | Nipissing District.... | " 18 |

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES

FROM GRAND LODGE OF

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson | England. |
| M. W. Bro. Kivas Tully | Ireland. |
| R. W. Bro. Hugh A. Mackay | Scotland. |
| R. W. Bro. John Creasor, Q. C. | British Columbia. |
| R. W. Bro. Emilius Irving, Q. C..... | Manitoba. |
| R. W. Bro. Robt. McKnight..... | Prince Edward Island. |
| R. W. Bro. Robt. McKay | Quebec. |
| R. W. Bro. D. D. Campbell | New South Wales. |
| R. W. Bro. L. Secord, M. D. | New Zealand. |
| R. W. Bro. J. H. Burritt..... | South Australia. |
| M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson | Victoria. |
| R. W. Bro. G. H. F. Dartnell | Alabama. |
| R. W. Bro. J. C. Hegler | Arkansas. |
| V. W. Bro. G. S. Ryerson, M. D..... | California. |
| M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson..... | Connecticut. |
| M. W. Bro. Henry Robertson, Q. C.... | District of Columbia. |
| R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason | Florida. |
| M. W. Bro. W. R. White, Q. C..... | Georgia. |
| V. W. Bro. J. H. Flock | Idaho. |
| R. W. Bro. J. E. D'Avignon..... | Illinois. |
| R. W. Bro. E. H. D. Hall | Indian Territory. |
| R. W. Bro. W. G. Reid | Kansas. |
| R. W. Bro. D. F. Macwatt | Louisiana. |
| R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford | Michigan. |
| M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson | Minnesota. |
| M. W. Bro. J. M. Gibson..... | Montana. |
| V. W. Bro. J. A. Cowan | New Hampshire. |
| R. W. Bro. Wm. Rea | New Mexico. |
| M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray..... | New York. |
| R. W. Bro. J. S. Dewar..... | North Dakota. |
| R. W. Bro. L. G. Jarvis..... | Ohio. |
| V. W. Bro. R. Lewis | Rhode Island. |
| R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone | South Dakota. |
| R. W. Bro. Dewitt H. Martyn, M. D.... | Vermont. |
| R. W. Bro. T. H. Brunton | Virginia. |
| R. W. Bro. W. C. Wilkinson | Washington. |
| R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, Q. C.... | West Virginia. |
| R. W. Bro. Thos. Sargant | Wisconsin. |
| M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson..... | Brazil. |
| R. W. Bro. Geo. Tait | Cuba. |
| R. W. Bro. G. G. Rowe | Italy. |
| M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, Q. C. | Peru. |

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

PAST GRAND MASTERS.—M. W. Bros. A. A. Stevenson, Hugh Murray, Hy. Robertson, Q. C., R. T. Walkem, Q. C., J. Ross Robertson, Hon. J. M. Gibson, Q. C., W. R. White, Q. C., and Kivas Tully.

PAST DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.—A. B. Jardine, J. A. Morton D. Robertson, James S. Dewar, H. A. Collins, J. B. Carscallen, R. Mahoney, W. B. Sanders, W. McCabe, W. Conboy, A. E. Cooper, John McLaren, D. D. Campbell, R. M. Stuart, Robt. Scott, R. B. Hungerford, P. W. D. Brodrick, John Scoon, J. S. Tennant, John Boyd, W. R. Howse, A. M. Ross, J. C. Hegler, E. H. D. Hall, Gavin Stewart, G. H. F. Dartnell, A. J. Oliver, A. McCurdy, Geo. Tait, W. G. Reid, T. Sargant, W. F. Myles, Æmilius Irving, T. McCallum, R. McKnight, L. G. Jarvis, Aubrey White, John Malloy, W. T. Toner, J. F. Graham, J. A. Houston, Geo. C. Eden, Geo. Sommerville, G. W. Holwell, W. Roaf, R. A. Mackay, D. H. Martyn, J. G. Liddell, G. J. Bennett, E. D. Parlow, D. F. Macwatt, H. Pringle, W. J. Robertson, G. C. Holden, J. H. Widdifield, J. H. Burnett, R. L. Gunn, R. Dinnis, T. H. Brunton, J. E. Harding, O. Bascom, J. B. Nixon, R. E. Wood, W. W. Rutherford, R. W. Longmore, Wm. Rae, E. B. Butterworth, Thos. Allshire, J. Creasor, A. E. Harvey, James Noble, J. A. Macfadden, J. H. Knifton, J. A. McGilivray, Wm. Kennedy, Isaac Huber, A. B. Hurrell, Wm. Miller, A. H. Clarke, John Macdonald and W. R. Hickey.

PAST GRAND SENIOR WARDENS.—James Bain, James Sutherland, G. R. Vanzant, L. Secord, A. W. Porte, B. Allen and Allan McLean.

PAST GRAND JUNIOR WARDENS.—M. Walsh, F. Mudge, J. S. Dewar, Hugh Walker and G. G. Rowe.

PAST GRAND CHAPLAINS.—Rev. Geo. Crystal, Rev. Evans Davis, Rev. J. W. Hodgins.

PAST GRAND REGISTRARS.—H. A. Mackay, W. C. Wilkinson, R. J. Craig, F. F. Manley, M. Gibbs, F. C. Martin, J. E. Hetherington, J. J. Ramsay and G. C. Patterson.

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PAST GRAND SENIOR DEACON.—F. Gallow.

PAST GRAND SUPERINTENDENTS OF WORKS.—John Hall, C. F. Mansell, D. A. Sinclair, M. D., and D. Bole.

PAST GRAND DIRECTORS OF CEREMONIES.—Jas. Walters, Jos. Hook, R. T. Coady, S. Wesley, H. M. Wright, N. B. Colcock.

PAST ASSISTANT GRAND SECRETARY.—C. Lemon.

PAST ASSISTANT GRAND DIRECTORS OF CEREMONIES.—W. P. Gundy, Thos. Millman and A. Patterson.

PAST GRAND SWORD BEARERS.—James Evans, W. J. McAllister, R. Lewis, R. Cuthbert, J. A. Cowan and W. Walker.

PAST GRAND ORGANISTS.—N. T. Lyon, John Callard and W. A. Karn.

PAST ASSISTANT GRAND ORGANISTS.—Geo. Gott and N. L. Steiner.

PAST GRAND PURSUIVANT.—A. Morton.

PAST GRAND STEWARDS.—D. Rose, Geo. Hodgetts, J. A. Hoshal, S. Dubber, J. H. Flock, John Erskine, R. R. Fulton, A. Shaw, M. McD. Fleming, J. H. Dickinson, S. Percy, A. D. Ponton, S. Henry, James Stewart, R. J. Pujolas, J. G. Gillespie, Peter Toll, I. Baker, O. J. Bridle, E. J. Voss and W. A. Ferrah.

PAST GRAND STANDARD BEARER.—L. A. Congdon.

Before the opening of Grand Lodge, Ald. Leslie and members of the City Council were announced, introduced and in the absence of His Worship the Mayor, welcomed the Grand Lodge to Toronto.

The M. W. the Grand Master, having made a suitable response, and a constitutional number of lodges being represented, the Grand Lodge was opened in *ample form* at 2.45 o'clock, p. m., and the Grand Chaplain implored a blessing from the G. A. O. T. U. upon the proceedings.

A deputation of Masters from the Toronto Lodges were announced, introduced, and W. Bro. W. W. Vickers, W. M. of King Solomon's Lodge, No. 22, in the absence of W. Bro. F. M. Bell-Smith, W. M. of St. Andrews Lodge, No. 16, presented to the Grand Master and the Grand Lodge the fraternal greetings of the Toronto brethren.

After alluding to the pleasure it afforded him to be the spokesman for the lodges located in Toronto, W. Bro. Vickers said :

"It is not unfitting, apart from the relative seniority of King Solomon's Lodge, that its representative should receive you in this hall to-day, for in the establishment of our present Grand Lodge, in 1855, King Solomon's Lodge, then No. 222, G. R. Ireland, now No. 22, G. R. C., was one of the foremost lodges which fought for an independent Grand Lodge, and on the 19th day of December, A. D. 1855, this lodge was first to publicly recognize M. W. Bro. Wm. M. Wilson, the first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

"To-day, on behalf of our respective lodges, we acknowledge by our presence the supremacy of the Grand Lodge of the Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, in the Province of Ontario, and again pledge our obedience to its laws.

"Our minds are filled with respect and admiration for your wise and careful administration of the affairs of the Craft, and it is with more than a sense of willing obedience to the summons of the Grand Master that brings us here. We cannot fail to express, Most Worshipful Sir, what is in our hearts, and without disparagement to any of your predecessors, it may well be said that you have in the largest measure practised the teachings of Craft Masonry. The operative and the speculative have been combined in a rare degree, with the result that the fraternal union, order and tranquility for which the constitution of the Grand Lodge provides has never been surpassed. Moreover the general welfare of the Craft has improved vastly during your occupancy of the chair in the Grand East.

"We welcome you to-day in this great monument to the worth and steadfast purpose of one of the members of Grand Lodge, and in the name of the ten lodges which call the Temple Building "Home," I greet you.

"A more handsome, perfect and complete lodge room does not exist, and in its adornment we must point with pleasurable pride and gratitude to the beneficence of M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson, P. G. M.

"The 11th Masonic District has been fortunate in having so able a D. D. G. M. to take the immediate care of this most important division off your shoulders, and it is not too much to say that R. W. Bro. Chapple not only did his simple duty, but took upon himself the instruction of the brethren in the explanation of the symbols of Masonry.

"For ourselves I am prompted to state that the quality and quantity of our candidates has been proportionate to the prosperity of our order and its growth in a right way has been phenomenal.

"Greater interest has been taken by all the brethren, and it would appear that Masonry never stood higher and was never held in higher esteem by all."

The M. W. the Grand Master expressed himself as being highly gratified with the reception given to him and to the Grand Lodge by the officers and members of the Toronto lodges.

GRAND LODGE OF MICHIGAN.

The Grand Pursuivant announced that the M. W. the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, accompanied by his officers, was in attendance. The M. W. the Grand Master requested M. W. Bros. Hy. Robertson and R. T. Walkem and R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford to retire and introduce the distinguished visitors, which was done, and the following brethren were introduced by M. W. Bro. Walkem, conducted to the dais and received with grand honors :

- M. W. Bro. James Bradley, Port Huron....Grand Master.
- M. W. Bro. John W. McGrath, DetroitPast Grand Master.
- R. W. Bro. Frank T. Lodge, Detroit.....Deputy Grand Master.
- R. W. Bro. Lucian E. Wood, PokagonGrand Senior Warden.
- R. W. Bro. Frank O. Gilbert, Bay City.....Grand Junior Warden.
- R. W. Bro. Wm. Wentz, Manistee.....Grand Treasurer.
- R. W. Bro. J. S. Conover, Coldwater.....Grand Secretary.
- M. W. Bro. A. Clark, LexingtonGrand Lecturer.
- V. W. Bro. F. E. Turrell, BellaireGrand Marshal.
- Bro. James F. McGregor, Detroit....Grand Tyler.
- W. Bro. C. E. Sweet, Dowagiac, E. E. Stone, G. W. Lusk and S. R. Rirchard, Bay City ; C. C. Casler and J. W. Taylor, Port Huron, and P. J. Morahan, Detroit.

The M. W. the Grand Master having extended a hearty welcome to the Michigan brethren, and the M. W. the Grand Master of Michigan having suitably acknowledged it, R. W. Bro. Lodge, on behalf of the Grand Lodge of Michigan, presented Grand Lodge with a beautiful gavel as a souvenir of their visit. In making the presentation, R. W. Bro. Lodge spoke as follows :

"Most Worshipful Grand Master, and Officers, Members and Brethren of the Grand Lodge :

"Even the reasonable orders of our Most Worshipful Grand Master are sometimes difficult of execution. In this case, however, his command for me to assist him in expressing to you our appreciation of your kindly words of welcome is easy to obey, for it is always a pleasant task to respond to pleasant words. There are times when the nerves which connect the heart and brain with the lips fail to properly convey their telegraphic messages of thought and feeling, when the trembling lip and suffused eye and faltering tongue best indicate the emotions of the heart. But when gracious words of

fraternal welcome such as those to which we have just listened are spoken by such men, at such a time, and in such a place, it is easy to utter the heartfelt 'Thank you' which springs spontaneously to the lips.

"In a peaceable, brotherly way, we have this day made an invasion of Ontario—something that no armed force has ever yet successfully accomplished. This day the power and authority of Michigan Masonry, as it is lodged in the person of the Most Worshipful Grand Master and his assistants, is present at the altar of your Grand Lodge to bring to you the compliments, congratulations and good wishes of forty thousand brethren of the Craft, who gather around Free-masonry's altars in the lordly domains of the Peninsular State.

"I think I am safe in saying that never before in the history of this Grand Lodge—certainly never before in the history of Michigan Masonry—has such an event occurred. But this is a year when all records have been broken. This year has seen the hereditary antagonisms of four generations, between two sections of the same Anglo-Saxon stock, almost instantaneously broken down. To-day the English mother, just in her matronly prime, still full of strength and vigor, has clasped to her breast, in reconciled embrace, her no less sturdy American daughter. Their temporary estrangements have all been forgotten. They are both conscious only of the one fact that the same blood courses through their veins, that they both spring from the same glorious stock, that they are both heirs of the same priceless heritage of liberty, that the constitutional guarantees of freedom won at Hastings and Runnymede, and confirmed upon a hundred bloody British fields, belong to both alike. To-day the proud mother, back of whom lies so many centuries of brilliant history, rejoices that the daughter of her youth and strength is keeping up the old traditions, that, secure in her own proud position, that daughter has stretched forth her hands to aid and support a weaker nation in its struggle for freedom. To-day the daughter is glad that the mother, too, has had her glorious part in the new battle for human rights.

"We Americans can never forget that the attitude of our mother country in the present crisis held the other nations of the earth at bay. Henceforth, Americans and Englishmen, the world over, are brothers with no difference or shadow of contention between them, and we appear at your altar to-day, not only brothers by the sacred ties of Masonry, but also brothers by the strong ties of kinship and country and blood.

"The words which are uttered on occasions like this soon vanish into thin air and are forgotten. But we have endeavored to embody our greetings in a more substantial form than that of words, and at this, the opening of your forty-third annual communication, we have brought to you, to be wielded by your Grand Master in governing your deliberations, a gavel which is not without historic interest. Its head is made of Michigan oak; its handle was a part of the boat hook belonging to the gig of Captain Sigsbee, of the U. S. S. Maine, and was last used by the captain himself when his boat had brought him from his wrecked ship to the steamer City of Washington, in Havana bay. He extended it to Mr. Sigmund Rothschild, of Detroit, Mich., who was on board the City of Washington, and who assisted him aboard that vessel. As a token of his appreciation, Captain Sigsbee presented the boat hook to Mr. Rothschild, who kindly gave a portion of it to us.

"The head of the gavel is bound at either end with portions of the brass railing of the wrecked vessel. One band is appropriately engraved with the pine needles and cones of the Michigan forests, while, upon the other band, are engraved the maple leaves of Canada. Upon one side of the head has been wrought, in Michigan silver and copper, the coat of arms of the Wolverine State. Upon the other side is a beautifully chased representation of the maple leaf and the cousin-german of the wolverine, the beaver, the symbol of your own province.

"Upon the handle are the American and English flags joined, while upon the top is a silver band, upon which have been engraved these words, 'Presented by the officers of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Michigan, U. S. A., to the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada in the Province of Ontario, with fraternal greetings and best wishes, July 20, A. D., 1898, A. L. 5898.'

"We have thus endeavored to symbolize the present nearness of American and English interests and aspirations. The craft which we honor, and which honors us, has already taught mankind, in every clime, that neither country, sect, nor opinion should separate human hearts, but that the only aristocracy we should recognize is the aristocracy of brain and of heart. The spirit of the age is tending towards the breaking down of national barriers; the teachings of our fraternity that 'A man's a man for a' that,' whatever his nationality, are rapidly spreading outside the craft; the restless logic of events is rapidly drawing the two greatest nations of the earth closer together; and we hope that this international fraternal visit of ours, and this small token of our regard, with its intermingling of national symbols, may prefigure the speedy coming of the time when our two national anthems, 'America' and 'God Save the Queen,' which, even now, thrill with the same sweet melody, may also voice the same words of allegiance and loyalty, and that the two proudest banners in the world—the Stars and Stripes and the British Ensign—may be twined together in an international love-knot of friendship and of amity that shall never be sundered.

"Accept, then, Most Worshipful Sir and Brethren, this historic gavel with its symbolism of friendship and may the British 'hearts of oak' of your children and your children's children throb with the same feelings of affection that now pervade and animate every American bosom."

The M. W. the Grand Master, having received the gavel, briefly but warmly acknowledged the gift, and again expressed the pleasure it afforded him to welcome the visitors from the American Republic.

PAST GRAND MASTER OF NOVA SCOTIA.

M. W. Bro. D. C. Fraser, P. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia, was then announced, introduced and welcomed with grand honors.

COMMITTEE OF CREDENTIALS.

R. W. Bros. Wm. Roaf, A. R. Hargraft, Geo. M. Aylsworth and W. Bro. E. B. Brown, the Committee on Credentials of Representatives and Proxies from lodges, reported the following as being present:

- No. 2.* *Niagara, Niagara.*
W. Bro. W. E. Lyall, W. M.; W. Bro. J. G. Rousseau, P. M.
- No. 3.* *The Ancient St. John's, Kingston.*
W. Bro. J. S. Skinner, W. M.; M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem,
R. W. Bro. W. H. Macnee and W. Bro. R. D. Baker P. M's.
- No. 5.* *Sussex, Brockville.*
W. Bro. Thos. Dowell, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 6.* *Barton, Hamilton.*
W. Bro. H. B. Witton, W. M.; R. W. Bros. H. A. Mackay,
W. R. Howse and Gavin Stewart; W. Bros. J. Bicknell, A.
T. Freed, S. M. Kenney, J. G. Gauld, G. H. Bull, H. S.
Griffin, M. D., W. E. Henderson and A. McPherson, P. M's.
- No. 7.* *Union, Grimsby.*
W. Bro. R. Lipsit, W. M.
- No. 9.* *Union, Napanee.*
V. W. Bro. Jas. Walters, P. M., Proxy.
- No. 10.* *Norfolk, Simcoe.*
W. Bro. W. P. Price, W. M.; Bro. J. G. Bottomley, J. W.;
R. W. Bro. T. R. Atkinson and W. Bro. G. H. Luscombe,
P. M's.
- No. 11.* *Moira, Belleville.*
W. Bro. W. Lattimer, W. M.; R. W. Bro. Rev. D. F. Bogart,
P. M.
- No. 15.* *St. George's, St. Catharines.*
Bro. J. T. Petrie, J. W.; R. W. Bro. C. H. Connor and W.
Bro. J. E. Hetherington, P. M's.
- No. 16.* *St. Andrew's, Toronto.*
Bro. H. T. Smith, S. W.; R. W. Bros. Geo. Tait, W. C. Wil-
kinson, E. Irving and James Bain; V. W. Bros. D. Rose,
Geo. Hodgetts and W. P. Gundy; W. Bros. J. Glanville, A.
R. MacDonald, J. Pearson, J. E. Hansford, R. W. Doan, J.
T. Slater, A. Smith, Thos. Bell, C. E. Edmonds and J. S.
Lovell, P. M's.
- No. 17.* *St. John's, Cobourg.*
R. W. Bro. R. J. Craig, P. M., Proxy; R. W. Bro. A. R.
Hargraft, P. M.
- No. 18.* *Prince Edward, Picton.*
W. Bro. R. H. Hubbs, W. M.; W. Bros. Geo. L. Hough, W.
T. Shaw and H. Welbanks, P. M's.
- No. 20.* *St. John's, London.*
W. Bro. John Jones, W. M.; R. W. Bro. A. B. Greer; V. W.
Bro. Jas. Hook; W. Bros. Alex. Findlay, John Robertson
and Jas. Dunn, P. M's.
- No. 22.* *King Solomon's, Toronto.*
W. Bro. W. W. Vickers, W. M.; Bro. W. W. Glass, S. W.;
M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson; R. W. Bro. Aubrey White;
V. W. Bros. John Hall and N. T. Lyon; W. Bros. S. Hol-
lingsworth, W. A. Lyon, T. D. D. Lloyd, W. Anderson, W.
H. Walkem, Wm. Cooke, Thos. Langton, A. A. Davis and
W. Grant, P. M's.
- No. 23.* *Richmond, Richmond Hill.*
W. Bro. Ernest Coombs, W. M.; W. Bros. J. Crosby, Thos.
H. French and H. A. Nicholls, P. M's.

- No. 24. *St. Francis, Smith's Falls.*
W. Bro Thos. Jones, W. M.; R. W. Bro. J. A. Houston; V. W. Bro W. Hyndman and W. Bro. A. G. Foster, P. M's.
- No. 25. *Ionic, Toronto.*
W. Bro. E. B. Brown, W. M.; Bros. F. W. Harcourt, S. W.; S. B. Sykes, J. W.; M. W. Bro. Kivas Tully; R. W. Bros. W. Roaf, G. J. Bennett and F. F. Manley; V. W. Bros. G. S. Ryerson, J. F. Lash, C. W. Postlethwaite, Thos. Millman; W. Bros. T. F. Shepley, A. B. Aylesworth, J. H. Patterson, Walter Barwick, J. A. McAndrew and J. R. Roaf, P. M's.
- No. 26. *Ontario, Port Hope.*
W. Bro. Harold Barrett, W. M.; Bro. Rev. G. H. Broughall, S. W.; R. W. Bro. W. J. Robertson; V. W. Bro. Jas. Evans; W. Bros J. Hoffman, T. A. Thompson, J. A. Woodhouse, R. A. Mulholland, E. Brown, J. H. Helm and Thos. Long, P. M's.
- No. 27. *Strict Observance, Hamilton.*
W. Bro. Walder Parke, W. M.; Bros. W. C. Breckenridge, S. W.; Robt. Morton, J. W.; R. W. Bros. J. J. Mason, R. L. Gunn; W. Bros. J. H. Herring and Geo. W. Kappel, P. M's.
- No. 28. *Mount Zion, Kemptville.*
Bros. R. Cann, S. W.; B. M. Jones, J. W.; R. W. Bro. O. Bascom and W. Bro. W. H. Bottum, P. M's.
- No. 29. *United Brighton.*
R. W. Bro. A. R. Hargraft, Proxy.
- No. 30. *Composite, Whitby.*
W. Bro. Jos. King, W. M.; Bro. Fred. Hatch, J. W.; R. W. Bros. A. M. Ross, G. H. F. Dartnell; W. Bros. A. G. Henderson, P. Taylor, Jas. Brown and Jas. White, P. M's.
- No. 31. *Jerusalem, Bowmanville.*
W. Bro. D. B. Simpson, W. M.
- No. 32. *Amity, Dunnville.*
W. Bro. J. C. Eccles, W. M.; Bro. G. D. Robertson, S. W.; V. W. Bro. L. A. Congdon and W. Bro. R. G. W. Conolly, P. M's.
- No. 33. *Maitland, Goderich.*
W. Bro. Geo. Porter, W. M.; Bro. W. D. Tye, J. W.
- No. 34. *Thistle, Amherstburg.*
V. W. Bro. Geo. Gott, P. M. and Proxy.
- No. 35. *St. John's, Cayuga.*
W. Bro. L. L. Barber, W. M.; V. W. Bro. J. A. Hoshal; W. Bros. G. R. Powell, J. G. Carruthers and D. Thompson, P. M's.
- No. 37. *King Hiram, Ingersoll.*
W. Bro. J. M. Curry, W. M.; R. W. Bro. M. Walsh; W. Bros. J. P. Boles and Jas. Vance, P. M's.
- No. 38. *Trent, Trenton.*
W. Bro. S. B. McClung, W. M.
- No. 39. *Mount Zion, Brooklin.*
W. Bro. John W. Thompson, P. M.
- No. 40. *St. John's, Hamilton.*
W. Bro. Jas. F. Mercer, W. M.; Bro. P. Sommerville, S. W.; R. W. Bros. W. G. Reid, T. McCallum, John Malloy; V. W. Bro. W. J. McAllister; W. Bros. W. R. Job, J. A. Cox,

- John Moodie, Wm. Birrell, W. J. Aitchison and John Keith,
P. M's.
- No. 41. *St. George's, Kingsville.*
W. Bro. R. F. Golden, Proxy.
- No. 42. *St. George's, London.*
Bro. E. B. Plewes, J. W.; V. W. Bro. John Callard; W.
Bros. H. Hayman, W. Hayman and John Blanch, P. M's.
- No. 43. *King Solomon's, Woodstock.*
W. Bro. W. Shaver, W. M.; R. W. Bro. Geo. C. Eden and W.
Bro. Alex. McGachie, P. M's.
- No. 44. *St. Thomas, St. Thomas.*
W. Bro. W. L. Wickett, W. M.; R. W. Bro. R. A. McKay;
V. W. Bro. S. Dubber and W. Bro. J. S. Frazer, P. M's.
- No. 45. *Brant, Brantford.*
W. Bro. F. W. Frank, W. M.; R. W. Bros. S. F. Passmore
and Fred. Mudge, P. M's.
- No. 46. *Wellington, Chatham.*
W. Bro. L. F. Wilson, W. M.
- No. 47. *Great Western, Windsor.*
Bro. Geo. E. White, J. W.; W. Bro. Thos. Peters, P. M.
- No. 48. *Madoc, Madoc.*
W. Bro. A. H. Watson W. M.
- No. 52. *Dolhousie, Ottawa.*
W. Bro. S. M. Rogers, W. M.; R. W. Bro. E. D. Parlow and
W. Bro. G. S. May, P. M's.
- No. 54. *Vaughan, Maple.*
W. Bro. Leeds Richardson and J. S. Kinnee, P. M's.
- No. 55. *Merrickville, Merrickville.*
W. Bro. J. E. Angus, W. M.
- No. 56. *Victoria, Sarnia.*
W. Bro. W. R. Paul, W. M.; W. Bros. D. M. Grant, and A.
Weir, P. M's.
- No. 57. *Harmony, Binbrook.*
W. Bro. W. G. Fletcher, W. M.; R. W. Bro. Rev. George
Crystal and W. Bro. S. C. Wright, P. M's.
- No. 58. *Deric, Ottawa.*
W. Bros. W. J. Kidd, W. M., and S. A. Luke, P. M.
- No. 61. *Acacia, Hamilton.*
Bro. S. A. Morgan, S. W.; M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray; R.
W. Bro. Geo. C. Holden; W. Bros. R. V. Matthews, S. A.
Morgan, J. B. Smith, W. W. Greenhill and John Nicholl,
P. M's.
- No. 62. *St. Andrew's, Caledonia.*
Bro. A. R. McRitchie, J. W.
- No. 63. *St. John's, Carleton Place.*
W. Bro. D. H. McIntosh, W. M.
- No. 64. *Kitwinning, London.*
W. Bro. John Paul, W. M.; R. W. Bro. Rev. Evans Davis;
V. W. Bros. J. H. Flock and R. Lewis; W. Bros. W. H.
Morgan, A. A. Campbell and Jos. Dambra, P. M's.
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W. Bro. J. McCurrah, W. M.; Bro. E. H. Briggs. J. W.;

R. W. Bros. R. Dinnis, J. B. Nixon, M. Gibbs; V. W. Bro. F. Gallow; W. Bros. A. Dinnis, F. Armstrong, W. J. Graham, C. H. Mortimer, D. D. Grierson, A. Park, F. W. Unitt and W. Bain, P. M's.

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W. Bro. J. A. Donald, W. M.
- No. 74. *St. James, Bethel.*
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James S. Dewar and W. Bro. H. Graef, P. M's.
- No. 316. *Doric, Toronto.*
W. Bro. J. H. Pirie, W. M.; R. W. Bros. H. A. Collins, A.
A. S. Ardagh; V. W. Bro. J. A. Cowan and W. Bros. H.
Leeson, F. Qua, W. McCartney, B. N. Davis and W. G.
Mutton, P. M's.
- No. 318. *Wilmot, Baden.*
W. Bro. F. Holwell, W. M.
- No. 319. *Hiram, Hagersville.*
W. Bro. James McNicol, W. M.
- No. 320. *Chesterville, Chesterville.*
W. Bro. W. A. Brown, W. M.; V. W. Bro. Jas. G. Gillespie,
and W. Bros. W. B. Lawson and R. M. Smith, P. M's.
- No. 321. *Walker, Acton West.*
W. Bros. J. F. Wren, W. M.; John Kenney, P. M.
- No. 322. *North Star, Owen Sound.*
R. W. Bro. W. A. Bishop, P. M. and Proxy; John Creasor,
P. M.
- No. 323. *Alvinston, Alvinston.*
W. Bro. F. J. Winlow, Proxy.
- No. 324. *Temple, Hamilton.*
W. Bro. J. A. Zimmerman, W. M.; M. W. Bro. J. M. Gib-
son, V. W. Bro. C. Lemon and W. Bros. K. Bethune, D.
Clark, A. M. Cunningham and C. W. Tinling, P. M's.
- No. 325. *Orono, Orono.*
W. Bro. J. S. Robertson, W. M.; Bro. J. W. Odell, S. W.;
W. Bro. J. W. Cornish, P. M.
- No. 326. *Zetland, Toronto.*
W. Bro. W. M. Angus, W. M.; Bros. A. Stewart, S. W., R.
A. Donald, J. W.; R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, V. W. Bro. C.

F. Mansell and W. Bros. H. Vigeon, Geo. Kappel, C. J. Hohl, J. Fletcher, J. T. Jones, C. A. B. Brown and H. A. Taylor, P. M's.

- No. 327. *The Hammond, Wardsville.*
W. Bros. E. Aitchison, W. M., J. T. McKillop, P. M.
- No. 328. *Ionic, Napier.*
R. W. Bro. A. E. Harvey, Proxy.
- No. 329. *King Solomon's, Jarvis.*
R. W. Bro. James Noble, W. M.; W. Bro. Jas. Duncan, P. M.
- No. 330. *Corinthian, London East.*
Bro. E. Blanchard, S. W.; V. W. Bro. Peter Toll and W. Bro. A. T. Cooper, P. M's.
- No. 332. *Stratford, Stratford.*
W. Bro. H. J. Powell, W. M.; Bros. R. M. Cassels, S. W.; J. C. Spencer, J. W.; R. W. Bro. J. A. Macfadden, V. W. Bro. I. Baker and W. Bro. E. K. Barnsdale, P. M's.
- No. 333. *Prince Arthur, Flesherton.*
W. Bro. M. Richardson, P. M., and Proxy.
- No. 334. *Prince Arthur, Arthur.*
W. Bro. M. Wilkins, W. M.; Bro. E. E. Snider, S. W.
- No. 336. *Highgate, Highgate.*
W. Bro. J. H. Rettenmier, W. M.; Bro. Jonas Goswell, S. W.
- No. 338. *Dufferin, Wellandport.*
Bro. M. H. Prentiss, S. W.; W. Bro. N. Shafley, P. M.
- No. 339. *Orient, Toronto.*
W. Bros. J. W. Thompson, W. M.; R. E. Bailey, G. S. Cleland, J. K. Leslie, F. G. Inwood, E. Sanderson, T. Davies, F. H. Anderson, Ira Bates, Jas. Macfarlane and W. J. Chick, P. M's.
- No. 341. *Bruce, Tiverton.*
R. W. Bro. D. H. Martyn, Proxy.
- No. 343. *Georgina, Toronto.*
W. Bro. A. B. Cordingley, W. M.; Bro. H. T. White, S. W.; R. W. Bro. J. A. McGillivray, and W. Bros. C. C. Whale and F. W. Flett, P. M's.
- No. 344. *Merrill, Dorchester.*
R. W. Bro. John S. Dewar, Proxy.
- No. 345. *Nilestown, Nilestown.*
R. W. Bro. John Boyd, Proxy.
- No. 346. *The Occident, Toronto.*
W. Bro. E. J. B. Duncan, W. M.; Bros. W. J. A. Lake, S. W.; John Muir, J. W.; W. Bros. A. Curran, F. Prince, J. S. Williams, A. M. Browne, H. A. E. Kent, T. W. Barber, J. R. Dunn and W. Crackle, P. M's.
- No. 348. *Georgian, Fenetang.*
W. Bro. C. A. Nettleton, W. M.
- No. 352. *Granite, Parry Sound.*
W. Bro. Wm. McGown, P. M. and Proxy; R. W. Bro. J. H. Knifton and W. Bros. W. E. Foot, D. Macfarlane and W. D. Jessop, P. M's.
- No. 354. *Brock, Cannington.*
W. Bro. N. McLeod, W. M.; Bro. A. A. McKenzie, S. W.

- No. 356. *River Park, Streetsville.*
Bro. W. Couse, S. W.
- No. 357. *Waterdown, Millgrove.*
Bro. S. Frank Smith, J. W.; W. Bros. Henry Clark and Robt. Flatt, P. M's.
- No. 358. *Delaware Valley, Delaware.*
W. Bro. J. W. Stilson, W. M.; R. W. Bro. W. C. Harris and V. W. Bro. J. R. Hammond, P. M's.
- No. 359. *Vittoria, Vittoria.*
R. W. Bro. W. Kennedy, P. M.
- No. 360. *Muskoka, Bracebridge.*
W. Bro. A. A. Mahaffy, W. M.; R. W. Bro. Isaac Huber and W. Bro. R. Mills, P. M's.
- No. 361. *Waverley, Guelph.*
W. Bros. J. H. Naismith, W. M., James Naismith, P. M.
- No. 362. *Maple Leaf, Tara.*
W. Bro. J. F. Hall, W. M.
- No. 364. *Dufferin, Melbourne.*
V. W. Bro. D. A. Sinclair, P. M.
- No. 367. *St. George, Toronto.*
W. Bro. J. J. Main, W. M.; Bros. J. W. Hickson, S. W., John Drew, J. W.; R. W. Bro. J. Hetherington and W. Bros. A. E. Gault, Frank Denton, E. G. Howse, A. G. Horwood, W. B. Stoneham, J. J. Thompson, W. J. Guy and Wm. Riddle, P. M's.
- No. 368. *Salem, Brockville.*
W. Bro. W. R. Scace, W. M.; R. W. Bro. T. A. Stayner; V. W. Bro. N. B. Colcock and W. Bro. E. A. Geiger, P. M's.
- No. 369. *Minico, Islington.*
W. Bro. D. M. Anderson, W. M.; Bro. A. B. Rice, J. W.; W. Bro. W. P. Gray, P. M.
- No. 370. *Harmony, Delta.*
Bro. A. W. Gray, S. W.
- No. 371. *Prince of Wales, Ottawa.*
W. Bro. J. J. Mulligan, W. M.
- No. 372. *Palmer, Bridgeburg.*
W. Bro. J. A. North, W. M.; R. W. Bro. A. B. Hurrell, P. M.
- No. 374. *Keene, Keene.*
Bro. W. L. Baynes-Reed, S. W.; W. Bro. J. M. Shaw, P. M.
- No. 375. *Lorne, Omence.*
Bro. J. J. Morgan, S. W.; R. W. Bro. W. Miller, P. M.
- No. 376. *Unity, Huntsville.*
W. Bros. J. E. Fisher, W. M.; J. R. Reece, J. N. Shearer and J. W. Hart, P. M's.
- No. 377. *Lorne, Shelburne.*
W. Bros. J. W. Douglas, W. M.; J. Cleary, P. M.
- No. 378. *King Solomon's, London West.*
W. Bros. J. E. Weber, W. M., W. J. Element, A. R. Galpin, John Hobbs, and E. T. Essery, P. M's.
- No. 379. *Middlesex, Bryanston.*
W. Bro. Robert Ardiel, Proxy.

- No. 380. *Union, London.*
V. W. Bro. O. J. Bridle, P. M., and Proxy; W. Bros. G. F. Morris and W. C. Fitzgerald, P. M's.
- No. 382. *Doric, Hamilton.*
W. Bro. W. F. Montague, W. M.; R. W. Bro. C. V. Emory and W. Bros. George Purrott, Jas. Cheyne and Fred. Walter, P. M's.
- No. 383. *Henderson, West Winchester.*
W. Bros. S. S. Reveler, W. M.; G. Johnson, P. M.
- No. 384. *Alpha, Toronto.*
W. Bro. A. T. Middleton, W. M.; V. W. Bros. C. P. Sparling and E. J. Voss, and W. Bros. J. E. Verral, W. T. Barker, J. W. St. John, John Gray, S. E. Hall, S. Horton and R. B. Orr, P. M's.
- No. 385. *Spry, Beeton.*
W. Bro. T. F. Chapin, W. M.; Bro. E. T. Strangways, S. W.; W. Bros. J. R. Croft and James Earley, P. M's.
- No. 386. *McColl, West Lorne.*
W. Bro. D. F. Webster, W. M.
- No. 390. *Florence, Florence.*
W. Bro. John Davison, Proxy.
- No. 391. *Howard, Ridgetown.*
W. Bros. J. C. Locke, W. M.; J. A. Dart, P. M.
- No. 392. *Huron, Camlachie.*
W. Bros. Thos. Paton, W. M.; S. W. Trusler and A. Trusler, P. M's.
- No. 393. *Forest, Chesley.*
W. Bro. J. M. Stewart, W. M.
- No. 394. *King Solomon's, Thamesford.*
W. Bro. J. T. Lloyd, W. M.; Bro. J. W. Smith, S. W.; V. W. Bro. E. A. Dundass, P. M.
- No. 395. *Parvaim, Comber.*
W. Bros. A. J. Brown, P. M., and Proxy; Jas. Kerr, P. M.
- No. 397. *Leopold, Brigden.*
W. Bro. D. Fisher, P. M., and Proxy.
- No. 398. *Victoria, Victoria Road.*
W. Bros. E. Mosgrove, W. M., W. L. Wood and J. W. Wood, P. M's.
- No. 399. *Moffat, Harrietsville.*
W. Bro. J. H. O'Neil, P. M., and Proxy.
- No. 400. *Oakville, Oakville.*
W. Bro. W. H. Speers, P. M., and Proxy; V. W. Bro. W. A. Ferrah and W. Bros. W. H. Robinson and Henry Wilson, P. M's.
- No. 402. *Central, Essex Centre.*
W. Bro. A. Raines, W. M.; R. W. Bro. A. H. Clarke and W. Bro. C. L. Crassweller, P. M's.
- No. 403. *Windsor, Windsor.*
W. Bro. J. H. Rodd, W. M.; Bros. C. Koelln, S. W.; F. Bridges, J. W.; W. Bro. R. W. Golden, P. M.
- No. 404. *Lorne, Tamworth.*
W. Bro. C. W. D. Clark, P. M.

- No. 405. *Mattawa, Mattawa.*
R. W. Bro. E. D. Parlow, Proxy; W. Bro. John McKay, P. M.
- No. 406. *The Spry, Fenelon Falls.*
R. W. Bro. E. Fitzgerald, P. M., and Proxy.
- No. 408. *Murray, Beaverton.*
R. W. Bro. W. J. Robertson, Proxy.
- No. 409. *Golden Rule, Grawenhurst.*
W. Bro. G. H. Homer, W. M.; A. P. Cornell, P. M.
- No. 410. *Zeta, Toronto.*
W. Bro. J. D. H. Browne, W. M.; Bro. T. G. Malcolm, J. W.; R. W. Bro. G. G. Rowe and W. Bros. T. W. Todd, J. C. Gray and W. R. Cavell, P. M's.
- No. 411. *Redney, Rodney.*
Bro. O. R. G. Stinson, S. W.
- No. 412. *Keystone, Sault Ste. Marie.*
R. W. Bro. C. F. Farwell, P. M. and Proxy; V. W. Bro. D. Bole and W. Bro. J. M. Wemyss, P. M's.
- No. 413. *Naphtali, Tilbury Centre.*
W. Bros. W. F. Robertson, W. M.; A. A. Wilson, James Reynolds and J. R. Palmer, P. M's.
- No. 416. *Lyn, Lyn.*
W. Bro. Thomas Dowell, Proxy.
- No. 417. *Keewatin, Keewatin.*
R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, Proxy.
- No. 418. *Maxville, Maxville.*
W. Bro. G. W. Shepherd, W. M.
- No. 419. *Bismarck, Point Edward.*
W. Bro. A. Weir, Proxy.
- No. 420. *Nipissing, North Bay.*
W. Bro. G. W. Liddle, W. M.
- No. 421. *Scott, Grand Valley.*
W. Bro. J. A. V. Preston, W. M.; Bro. R. T. Taylor, J. W.; W. Bro. W. R. Scott, P. M.
- No. 422. *Star of the East, Bothwell.*
R. W. Bro. W. R. Hickey, P. M., and Proxy.
- No. 423. *Strong, Sunaridge.*
W. Bro. W. D. Auldjo, P. M.
- No. 425. *St. Clair, Sombra.*
W. Bro. F. J. Winlow, Proxy.
- No. 426. *Stanley, Toronto Junction.*
W. Bro. J. A. Bull, W. M.; Bros. A. H. Perfect, S. W.; A. J. Anderson, J. W.; W. Bro. H. C. Fowler, P. M.
- No. 427. *Nickel, Sudbury.*
W. Bro. J. R. Gordon, W. M.; Bro. R. H. Arthur, J. W.; R. W. Bro. W. H. Howey and W. Bro. C. R. Reid, P. M's.
- No. 428. *Fidelity, Port Perry.*
W. Bro. R. G. Baird, W. M.
- No. 430. *Acacia, East Toronto.*
W. Bros. R. A. Hunter, W. M.; M. P. McMaster, John Parsell, W. H. Grant and W. R. Walters, P. M's.

- No. 431.* *Moravian, Eden Grove.*
R. W. Bro. T. Pinkerton, P. M., and Proxy.
- No. 433.* *Bonnechere, Eganville.*
W. Bro. N. W. Cleary, Proxy.
- No. 434.* *Algonquin, Emsdale.*
Bro. J. A. McDonald, S. W.
- No. 435.* *Havelock, Havelock.*
W. Bro. Elias Williams, W. M.
- No. 436.* *Burns, Hepworth.*
W. Bros. Frank Campbell, W. M., J. E. Campbell, P. M.
- No. 437.* *Tuscan, Sarnia.*
W. Bro. F. J. Winlow, W. M.
- No. 438.* *Harmony, Toronto.*
Bros. J. C. Gardner, S. W., R. J. Beeman, J. W.; R. W. Bros. G. C. Patterson and J. J. Ramsay, Sr.; V. W. Bros. Wm. Walker and J. Y. Egan and W. Bro. G. Wrigley, P.M's.
- No. 439.* *Alexandria, Alexandria.*
W. Bro. E. H. Tiffany, P. M., and Proxy.
- No. 440.* *Arcadia, Minden.*
W. Bro. E. B. Munn, W. M.
- No. 442.* *Dyment, Thessalon.*
W. Bro. W. L. Nichols, W. M.
- No. 445.* *Powassan, Powassan.*
W. Bro. Wm. Carmichael, W. M.

The M. W. the Grand Master, granted permission for the admission of all Master Masons in good standing as visitors.

The Grand Secretary read the rules and regulations for the government of Grand Lodge during the time of business.

The Grand Secretary commenced reading the minutes of proceedings at the last Annual Communication, when

It was moved by R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, seconded by M. W. Bro. W. R. White, and

Resolved, That the minutes of proceedings of Grand Lodge at the Forty-second Annual Communication, held in the City of Brantford, on the 21st and 22nd days of July, A. D. 1897, having been printed, and copies thereof forwarded to subordinate lodges, the same be considered as read, and be now confirmed, and that the minutes of the several Special Communications of Grand Lodge, entered by the Grand Secretary in the Minute Book, be taken as read, and are hereby confirmed.

GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

The M. W. the Grand Master delivered the following address to the brethren assembled in Grand Communication :—

BRETHREN OF THE GRAND LODGE :

Through the goodness of the Great Architect of the Universe we are once again permitted to meet in Grand Lodge, at this the Forty-third Annual Communication, in the Metropolitan City of the Province of Ontario, of which we all feel so justly proud.

The City of Toronto has given many able and distinguished rulers to the Craft in the past, and as a great Masonic centre will, I trust, give many more in the future.

The Grand Lodge of Canada owes very much to the brethren of Toronto for the active part taken by them in its formation, as well as for the continued and loyal support it has given it during the past forty-three years. Many, very many, of the brethren of that day are no more, but the good work they did and the results of the sacrifices they made still survive them.

It is with feelings of pride and pleasure that I am permitted again to refer to the condition of the Craft within our own jurisdiction. Our lodges are in a flourishing condition, the work is well done, and the Worshipful Masters, officers and members are taking a deep interest in the welfare and success of their respective lodges. Not a discordant voice has been raised during the two years I have had the honor of presiding over the affairs of Grand Lodge. I attribute this happy state of affairs to the good will of my brethren, the tact and ability of the Executive Officers of Grand Lodge, and to the tireless and painstaking efforts of the District Deputy Grand Masters of the several Masonic districts. No district can be too careful in selecting for this onerous and important position a duly qualified brother.

FINANCE.

I am again delighted to be able to call attention to the continued prosperity of Grand Lodge from a material standpoint. The capital account now stands at \$95,583.70.

BENEVOLENCE.

The recommendation made in my address at the last Annual Communication, and which was so warmly endorsed by Grand Lodge, that the Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Benevo-

lence should, with the approval of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and the President of the Board of General Purposes, be authorized to make grants for the purposes of temporary relief (such grants not to exceed \$40.00 to any one applicant), has worked exceedingly well and has given much satisfaction throughout the jurisdiction. It has made the stream of benevolence continuous during the year, and has provided the means of affording immediate relief to many who would otherwise have been unaided for a whole year through no fault of their own.

In pursuance of the resolution, to which I have referred, I have, on the recommendation of the Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Benevolence, approved of 12 grants for temporary relief, amounting in all to \$495.00. Thus, the generous action of Grand Lodge at its last annual Communication has enabled me to extend relief promptly to six aged and sorely distressed brethren, and to six equally distressed and deserving widows. In no case has relief been granted except where pressing need has been clearly established.

In order to illustrate the wisdom of the action of Grand Lodge, I give the particulars in two of the above cases :

The first case submitted to me was that of the widow of a brother who died in 1881, and who, since that time had supported herself and daughter by her own industry. The daughter married, and had one child, an infant, the mother living with her daughter and her husband. On the 11th October last a fire occurred, which burned the house and all its contents, the widow barely escaping with her life, the child being burned, and the son-in-law also so badly injured that it was feared that he would be confined to the hospital for months. On the 15th of October I approved of a grant of \$40.00 to the widow, which was at once forwarded to her. Minden Lodge, No. 253, Kingston, of which the deceased brother had been a member, also made her a grant of \$25.00, and some of the brethren of that lodge contributed \$5.00. Thus the widow received the sum of \$70.00 in a few days after the disaster.

The second case was that of the widow and children of a brother who in his lifetime belonged to Chesterville Lodge, No. 320. The house, household furniture, clothing and effects of this widow and her children had been burned up in the great fire that swept over Casselman and its vicinity last fall. The widow and her children removed to Ottawa, and were assisted by the brethren of that city. The Chesterville lodge contributed \$20.00 and three Ottawa lodges made grants amounting to \$65.00, and a grant from Grand Lodge of \$40.00 was made in this case with my hearty approval.

Thus this widow received the sum of \$125,00 within a few days after her need arose.

Owing to the improvement in the business of the country, the care with which the benevolent funds are dispensed and the painstaking and efficient work of our investigating officer, the amount expended for benevolence has been \$355.00 less than last year, although the number of applicants reported against has been less. Upon his reports, grants were made in the most urgent and deserving cases. I cannot too earnestly impress upon the lodges the fulfilment of their duty to their unfortunate brethren in forwarding the applications for relief in proper form and in due time.

In order to assist the action of Grand Lodge in allowing increased grants where necessary or expedient, I have caused the investigating officer to report to the committee such deserving cases as came under his notice during last year. He has reported in favor of increased grants being made to fifteen brethren, six widows and one orphan, which will increase our annual grants \$1,000 or \$1,100.

The amounts paid last year by Grand Lodge upon the recommendation of R. W. Bro. Harding, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Benevolence and under special votes of Grand Lodge, were as follows, viz. :

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Grants payable through Lodges and Local Boards. | \$ 3,200 00 |
| Special grants by Grand Lodge | 575 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$ 8,775 00 |
| Donation to Sick Children's Hospital, Toronto.... | 2,000 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| Total | \$10 775 00 |

Making a grand total paid by Grand Lodge for benevolent purposes from the formation of the Board of Benevolence in 1865 to 31st May, 1898, of \$256,500. A record of charity worthy of Grand Lodge, and a sum greater according to our income, than that given by any other Grand Lodge in the world. Can there be any better illustration of the soundness of the system which we have adopted?

GENERAL MASONIC RELIEF ASSOCIATION.

I am pleased again to remind the brethren of the good work the General Masonic Relief Association of the United States and Canada is doing in the way of preventing imposition upon the brethren and lodges. The organization is worthy of the support it receives and is invaluable in connection with the work of benevolence. While the organized work of relief of

Grand Lodge through the committee of benevolence has been most beneficial, it must be remembered that there are other sources of relief that demand special attention. For many years the travelling Mason has, like the poor, been always with us. Indeed, one of the questions of the bygone time was the extent to which relief should be given to the homeless Mason who had left the Mother land and had crossed the ocean in the hope of bettering his condition in this western hemisphere. Men worthy and unworthy sought and obtained relief as they travelled from place to place. But it was in course of time found necessary to provide some means of discriminating between the worthy and the unworthy, and of preventing the stream of benevolence from flowing into improper channels.

The Masonic tramp imposed upon the goodness both of individual Masons and of the lodges. I am advised that on this continent prior to 1885 there was given by way of transient relief by lodges and private individuals \$100,000 per year; and in this province \$5,000 per year, which was given in the latter way, did not appear in lodge or board relief returns. A considerable part of this relief was no doubt given to worthy objects, but a large proportion was given to the undeserving.

This indiscriminate giving of relief by lodges and by individual craftsmen led in 1885 to the formation of the General Board of Relief of the United States and Canada at Baltimore. Its object is not to grant relief, but by means of a perfect system of enquiry to inform Lodges and Boards of Relief all over the continent of the names of all unworthy Masons who may be found applying for relief in the jurisdictions affiliated with the General Board. These jurisdictions include seventeen of the leading Grand Lodges of the United States and four in Canada, together with fifty-six Boards of Relief and seventy-six subscribing lodges. This Grand Lodge affiliated about eight years ago, and for one half cent. per head of our total membership (about \$125) every lodge in the jurisdiction receives once each month a warning circular with a list and accurate description of unworthy cases. It seems to me that for the amount paid we get exceedingly good value. I am told that an approximate estimate of the saving of Craft Lodges on this continent by the system adopted by the Association would be about \$75,000. In Ontario the amount saved is probably \$3,000 per annum, and in the other provinces of the Dominion about an equal sum.

One instance of the advantage of affiliation with the Association may be given. Prior to 1886 the amount paid to transient cases by the Toronto Board of Relief varied from \$1,000

to \$1,200 per year. Since 1886 it will not average \$150. The Toronto Board estimates a saving of about \$8,000 in ten years. The annual grant to this Board from Grand Lodge from 1881 to 1892, inclusive, averaged \$260, and for seven years no grant has been necessary. So that the money thus saved has paid the entire amount required from 1886 until 1898 for the affiliation of Grand Lodge, which gives the advantage of the system of the General Masonic Relief Association to all the lodges in the jurisdiction.

I have been informed that lodges in this jurisdiction have in some cases sanctioned the issuing of printed appeals to other lodges on behalf of needy brethren. This practice, which might be commendable if we had no Benevolent fund, or system of administering it, is under existing circumstances reprehensible. The aim of Grand Lodge has been to secure a just and prudent distribution amongst those entitled to appeal to us for assistance of all funds given for charitable purposes. To this end rules have been framed with great care by the Board of Benevolence, and an officer has been employed by Grand Lodge to investigate and report upon cases requiring and deserving assistance. It is quite evident that if lodges are allowed to issue special appeals on behalf of any brother or person requesting assistance the whole system devised by Grand Lodge would be disarranged. I hope that no further appeals of this kind will be sent out, but that the lodges and brethren will heartily co-operate in carrying into effect the rules and system established by the board and sanctioned by Grand Lodge.

LEGISLATION.

Referring to the notices of motion affecting the constitution which appear on the notice paper, I have to make the following remarks :

1st. Notice of motion by R. W. Bro. Sargant.

The division of the Toronto district should receive the support of the Grand Lodge, 35 of the 40 lodges of the present district being in favor of the change.

2nd. Notice of motion by R. W. Bro. Sargant will necessarily depend upon the decision arrived at in motion No. 1.

3rd. Notice of motion by R. W. Bro. R. McKnight.

In order to make the sentence complete, if adopted, the words D.D G.M. immediately following should also be erased.

4th. Notice of motion by V. W. Bro. R. Cuthbert.

The present system of holding the Annual Communications of Grand Lodge at different Masonic centres has worked so well during the past forty-three years, that Grand Lodge should

hesitate before making any city the permanent place of meeting.

5th. Notice of motion by V. W. Bro. R. Cuthbert.

The Constitution may never become perfect, still, every proposed change is well considered by Grand Lodge when under discussion, and I submit that an adverse vote against changes should be respected, and the time of Grand Lodge should not be taken up by attempting to force upon it motions every year that have been repeatedly defeated.

BY-LAWS.

During the past year I have examined, revised and confirmed the by-laws of seven lodges, and amendments to the by-laws of twenty lodges.

DEDICATIONS.

Grand Lodge was called together in the City of Ottawa, on May 19th, for the purpose of dedicating the Blue Lodge Rooms, held in common by the seven Masonic Lodges in the city.

The rooms are commodious, beautifully fitted up with all modern requirements, and reflect credit alike upon the owner of the property, and the committee from the lodges, who had the matter in charge.

The gathering was the largest ever held in the City of Ottawa, the occasion bringing together representative members of the craft from every province in the Dominion, men distinguished in every walk of life.

The beautiful dedication ceremonies were highly appreciated by the brethren of sister Grand Lodges.

In addition to our own distinguished brethren, we had the pleasure of having the Grand Master of Nova Scotia, the Past Grand Masters of the Grand Lodges of New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia, and representatives from all the other Grand Lodges.

The Ottawa lodges entertained Grand Lodge and the visiting brethren at a magnificent banquet at the Russell House, where over 300 members of the craft sat down to an entertainment worthy of the Masons of the capital of our Dominion.

R. W. Bro. Parlow presided at the banquet, assisted by the W. M's of each of the city lodges.

The rooms of Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 171, Lawrence, Ont., and Alexandria Lodge, No. 439, Alexandria, Ont., were dedicated by the D. D. G. M.'s of their respective districts, acting for me under my instructions.

CORNER STONES.

I had the honor during the past year, assisted by the officers of Grand Lodge and a large number of brethren, of laying corner stones at the following places, viz.: At Jarvis, on 27th July, 1897, when the corner stone of St. Paul's (Anglican) Church was laid with full Masonic ceremonies. The church when completed will reflect credit upon Bro. Piper, the Incumbent, and the members of his congregation.

At Walkerton, on 12th August, 1897, when the corner stone of a magnificent new Town Hall, named the Victoria Jubilee Town Hall, was laid by me. The ceremony was regarded with deep interest by a large concourse of people, the day being declared a public holiday for the occasion.

At East Toronto, 26th August, 1897, when the corner stone of the new Victoria Public School was laid by me. The W. M. officers and members of Acacia Lodge, No. 430, who were extremely kind to all in attendance, contributed in every way to the success of the ceremony.

At Highgate, 22nd June, 1898, when the corner stone of a Methodist Church was laid with Masonic ceremonies by R.W. Bro. Rankin, D. D. G. M. of District No. 1, Chatham, who kindly consented to act for me, as I found it impossible to attend.

I regret to have been obliged to refuse calling a meeting of Grand Lodge to lay the corner stone of a church, as the character of the building was not such as to warrant the expense of calling Grand Lodge together.

I again desire to call the attention of D. D. G. M.'s and the Worshipful Masters of lodges in the vicinity to the importance of having the fullest information sent to the Grand Secretary respecting the building to be erected, together with the plans and cost of the work, as laid down in the Book of Ceremonies.

OFFICIAL AND FRATERNAL VISITS.

On 17th Sept., 1897, I attended the 50th anniversary of the Lodge of Strict Observance, No. 27, Hamilton. At this meeting, R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, Grand Secretary, read a very able paper in connection with the history of the lodge during the past 50 years.

On 21st Sept., 1897, through the great kindness of M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, I was invited to visit St. George's Lodge in the City of Montreal, on the occasion of the official visit of the Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Quebec, M. W. Bro. Chambers. The Brethren, including all the Past Grand Masters of the Province of Quebec, turned out in large num-

bers to pay respect to their Grand Master, and the reception given me as your Grand Master was most cordial. I am pleased to say that Masonry is very prosperous in our Sister Grand Lodge.

On October 29th, 1897, I attended the banquet given by St. Andrew's Lodge in honor of the 75th anniversary of the lodge. The entertainment was one of the finest I ever had the honor of attending, the presence of the ladies making it especially attractive. The feature of the evening was the reminiscences of the early days of the lodge as told by R. W. Bro. Æmilium Irving and M. W. Bro. Kivas Tully. St. Andrew's may justly be termed the Mother lodge of Toronto and surrounding district. M. W. Bro. J. K. Kerr, the D. G. M., the G. S. and the G. J. Wardens, and many of the subordinate officers of Grand Lodge, were in attendance.

On November 2nd, 1897, I visited Stanley Lodge, No. 426, West Toronto Junction. This being the seventh anniversary of the lodge, the attendance was large, notwithstanding the stormy night. The W. M. Officers and members are very enthusiastic. The work of the evening was very well done by the Past Masters. The musical part was exceedingly good, the singing especially so. I was accompanied by the D. G. M., the G. J. W. and V. W. Bro. Dunn, P. G. S. It is proverbial that a Grand Lodge officer paying an official visit to lodges outside of cities always is sure of a most hearty welcome.

On November 4th, 1897, I paid a visit to Rehoboam Lodge, No. 65, Toronto, on the P. M.'s night. W. Bro. E. F. Clarke, M. P., was W. M. The lodge work was very fine; a most enjoyable evening was spent in the lodge-room, as well as at the banquet which followed. I had the pleasure of being accompanied by the D. G. M. and the G. J. W.

On December 1st, 1897, it was my good fortune to be able visit Northern Light Lodge, No. 93, Kincardine. The evening in the lodge-room was most agreeable. The brethren are far-famed for their tact and ability in putting on a teetotal banquet that cannot be excelled. The division of the toast-list amongst the brethren, and the beautiful and appropriate quotations, tended to keep up the liveliest interest until the last toast was reached about 4 a. m. There is no night in Northern Light Lodge when a Grand Lodge officer pays it a visit. It is without exception one of the most prosperous and one of the most generous and charitable lodges in our jurisdiction. W. Bro. Col. Scott and his new officers will maintain the high reputation of the lodge. I was accompanied by the D. G. M. and R. W. Bros. Tennant and Martyn.

On December 7th, 1897, I visited Orient Lodge, No. 339,

Toronto, in company with the D. G. M. The lodge-room is very fine, with evidence of prosperity on every hand ; a number of oil paintings adorn the walls, including a very fine picture of M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, who, when Grand Master, laid the corner stone of the building, and also dedicated the lodge-room when completed. R. W. Bro. Malone, D. G. M., installed the officers in a very able and effective manner.

On December 9th, 1897, I accompanied the brethren of Doric Lodge, No. 316, Toronto, in a fraternal return visit to Washington Lodge, Buffalo. Our reception was most cordial. Special attention was given to W. Bro. Williams, the W. M. of Doric Lodge, whilst the W. M.'s of all the other Masonic lodges in the city were a committee to introduce me to the Buffalo brethren. Five brethren were raised to the Sublime Degree in a faultless manner. We were afterwards entertained at a magnificent banquet at the "Iroquois." The toast to the Queen, the W. M. of Doric Lodge and the Grand Lodge of Canada were received in a most hearty manner. R. W. Bro. C. W. Cushing, Grand Junior Warden of the Grand Lodge of New York, presided with great ability, although suffering great pain, owing to severe illness. The responses made by the W. M., W. Bro. John A. Cowan, and others, were well received, and everyone felt the full meaning of the Junior Warden's toast. The party consisted of forty-two members from Toronto, three members from Barton Lodge, Hamilton, and two from Valley Lodge, Dundas. I am glad to say that the most generous sentiments were shown to us during our stay in the Bison City. The Masons of Buffalo are proverbial for their large-hearted hospitality. Fraternal visits of this nature between the two countries have been the means of doing good, and have encouraged good feeling and created a good understanding between us as nations.

On December 13th, 1897, I attended a musical and literary entertainment held by Valley Lodge, No. 100, Dundas, which was well attended. The remarks of the brethren who had resigned their membership, many of them years ago, led me to believe this gathering had created for them a new interest in in Masonry. Not a few of them decided to affiliate. The entertainment was a great success. It was really a re-opening of the lodge-rooms after the extensive repairs and alterations. Everything pointed towards a new life for the old Valley, and the committee having the renovations and entertainment in charge are to be congratulated, and have every reason to feel proud of their efforts. I was accompanied by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, R. W. Bros. Gunn, Malloy, McCallum and W. Bro. Davis.

On December 14th, 1897, I visited Temple Lodge, No. 324, Hamilton. This was the election night. R. W. Bro. Emory, D. D. G. M., paid his official visit, accompanied by a large number of the distinguished members of the Craft. A banquet was held at the close of the lodge meeting, and altogether the evening was a most enjoyable one throughout.

On December 16th, 1897, I attended the Past Masters' meeting of Maple Leaf Lodge, St. Catharines, with R. W. Bro. C. H. Connor, D. D. G. M., and many others. The work was beautifully exemplified. The members of the lodge wore "Maple Leaves" on their breasts in commemoration of the name of their lodge. A magnificent banquet was given in the lodge hall, and was attended by many members from the surrounding lodges in the country. The members of Maple Leaf are very enthusiastic Masons.

On December 27th, 1897, I attended the installation meeting of Ivy Lodge, No. 115, Beamsville, and assisted at the presentation of an address and Past Master's Jewel to V. W. Bro. T. A. Simpson, the present Grand Senior Deacon of this Grand Lodge. Bro. Simpson having acceptably served the lodge as Master for four consecutive years, the brethren elected him for the fifth term, which he declined, as he felt that he had held it long enough. He, however, has kept his promise that he would be as useful as P. M., doing everything in his power to further the interests of Masonry. This lodge held an "At Home" a month afterwards, attended by two hundred and fifty guests, who pronounced it a complete success.

On March 21st, 1898, I attended a concert and ball given by the Masons of all the lodges in the City of London.

It was without exception one of the finest entertainments I ever had the pleasure of attending. The brethren were kind enough to present me with an illuminated address in album form. The D. G. M., with his usual kindness, was with me, as was also R. W. Bro. Ardagh, the Grand Junior Warden.

On May 4th, 1898, I visited Temple Lodge, No. 296, St. Catharines, which held the twenty-fifth anniversary of their lodge, and was visited by members of every lodge within reasonable distance of the city. The work in the lodge was well done by all the old Past Masters, and the smoking concert, held afterwards, was a decided success. I had the pleasure of D. D. G. M. Connor's company, and that of many other brethren of the Niagara District who have given the craft a long and loyal support. Like other lodges in the city of St. Catharines, Temple Lodge is in a most flourishing condition.

On May 17th, 1898, I had the pleasure of attending the Semi-Centennial Celebration Ball of Corinthian Lodge, Peter-

boro, accompanied by M. W. Bro. Kivas Tully, the D. G. M., R. W. Bro. Ben Allen, and many other distinguished members of the craft. Addresses were presented to M. W. Bro. Tully and myself. The brethren of Corinthian succeeded in making the ball a success in every particular.

On June 30th, 1898, the brethren of Doric Lodge, No. 121, Brantford, celebrated their First Past Master's night by calling all the old P. M's. to fill the various offices, beginning with W. Bro. C. Heyd, M. P., the oldest Past Master, who left the chair nearly a quarter of a century ago. Members of Grand Lodge who attended the last Annual Communication do not require to be informed as to the enthusiasm of Brantford Masons. The work was ably done by each brother, although, in many cases, they had not done any lodge work for years. It was an evening of surprises. I had the extreme pleasure of presenting the immediate Past Master, W. Bro. Fawkes, with a beautiful jewel. The W. M. W., Bro. D. J. Waterous, presented me with a gold-headed cane, and in turn the W. M. was the recipient of another cane presented by the acting W. M., W. Bro. Heyd, M. P. Afterwards a banquet was held in another part of the building, which was a decided success. I had the pleasure of being accompanied by the following officers of the Grand Lodge, viz., M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, Grand Treasurer; R. W. Bro. Passmore, Grand Senior Warden; R. W. Bro. Emory, D. D. G. M.; V. W. Bro. Simpson, Grand Senior Deacon, and a number of other brethren from different parts of the Hamilton District. A pleasing feature of the entertainment was the singing of Messrs. Moore and Devanah, with Mr. Klotz as accompanist. These gentlemen came on the invitation of the W. M. of Maple Leaf Lodge. There were also a number of the members of the craft from the City of St. Catharines. The gathering was a grand success, and one of which the members of Doric Lodge, Brantford, may well feel proud.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

I have to thank the D. D. G. M.'s for carrying out my suggestion in holding Lodges of Instruction at the following places, viz.:—

District No. 2—One at Sarnia and one at Strathroy, both held by R. W. Bro. Sutherland, D. D. G. M.

District No. 4—One at Carlow, held by R. W. Bro. Tiernay, D. D. G. M.

District No. 5—One at Wiarton and one at Brussels, held by R. W. Bro. Pinkerton, D. D. G. M.

District No. 6—One at Woodstock, attended by represent-

atives from every lodge in the District, held by R. W. Bro. Atkinson, D. D. G. M.

District No. 8—One at Binbrook and one at Dundas, held by R. W. Bro. Emory, D. D. G. M.

District No. 11—One at Toronto under the auspices of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 16, Toronto, held by R. W. Bro. Chapple D. D. G. M.

The D. D. G. M.'s will I trust, make special reports of the Lodges of Instruction held. I find from the reports of some of the D. D. G. M.'s that in many cases the lodges were deterred by the expense of entertaining visiting brethren attending Lodges of Instruction.

May I be permitted to say that Lodges of Instruction are not called together for the purpose of holding a feast, but rather for the teaching of Masonic work and principles.

I have attended at Lodges of Instructions where the accommodation was provided at the hotel, without any lunch or spread at the lodge room, and in these cases the attendance was large, and the work suffered nothing in consequence. Brethren, I trust the time has gone by when the place of our annual meeting is determined by the ability of the lodges of the district to entertain Grand Lodge. Sufficient hotel accommodation is all Grand Lodge expects, and this principle should apply with equal if not with greater force to Lodges of Instruction.

I am pleased to notice that where Lodges of Instruction have not been held, many or nearly all of the District Deputy Grand Masters have had the work exemplified before them, and that in some instances the D. D. G. M.'s have detained the Masters and Past Masters after the close of the lodge meeting, and examined them as to their ability to instruct and instal their successors in office.

GRAND LODGE OF PERU.

I am now pleased that I did not take any hasty action with regard to issuing an edict of non-intercourse with our Sister Grand Lodge of Peru.

The presence of the Volume of the Sacred Law on the Altars of our lodges has always been considered as essentially necessary, not only evidencing our regard for its Divine nature, but also as indicating that its sacred precepts of moral and religious duty form the rule of our faith and conduct. Any departure from this ancient custom has always been most strongly condemned by the great body of the craft.

In June, 1897, the Grand Lodge of Peru gave its approval to a decree promulgated by the then Grand Master, Bro. Christian Dam, ordering the lodges in Peru to remove the Bible from

the altars and to substitute for it a copy of the Constitution. The principal justification offered by Bro. Dam for this extraordinary apostacy is thus stated: "that there being in Freemasonry brothers of all religious creeds, they cannot be expected to swear upon the Bible without Freemasonry becoming an accomplice in the transgression of its fundamental and dogmatic principles."

Fortunately for the good name of the craft in Peru, the order was not generally observed by the lodges, and at the next meeting of the Grand Lodge a new Grand Master was elected, who promptly repudiated the action of his predecessor, and the Grand Lodge rescinded their former resolution, thus replacing the Bible in its proper position in the lodges.

While the issuance of the decree by Bro. Dam was greatly to be regretted, its timely reversal is cause for congratulation. What we believe to be the Revealed Will of the Great Architect of the Universe is in no danger from the puny efforts of mortals, but as Freemasons it should be our pride and duty to uphold the Truth by all the means within our power. The fraternity may safely be trusted to preserve the Sacred Volume as our Spiritual Trestle-Board, and to keep it enshrined as the First Great Light in Freemasonry.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

Upon my recommendation, R. W. Bro. J. E. D'Avignon, of Windsor, has been appointed representative of the Grand Lodge of Illinois in place of R. W. Bro. G. C. Davis, deceased.

Upon the recommendation of the Grand Master of New Jersey I appointed M. W. Bro. G. W. Fortmeyer, of East Orange, our representative near the Grand Lodge of New Jersey in place of M. W. Bro. Henry R. Cannon, resigned.

Upon the recommendation of the Grand Master of Wisconsin I appointed M. W. Bro. Hiram W. Sawyer, of Hartford, our representative near the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, in place of R. W. Bro. Chas. Kahn, removed from the jurisdiction.

DISPENSATION FOR A NEW LODGE.

A Dispensation for a new lodge was granted by me on 26th July, 1897, to be called Nitetis, and to be held at Creemore, in the County of Simcoe.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

I feel it my duty, brethren, to refer to the work of M. W. Bro. H. Robertson in connection with foreign correspondence.

Few brethren have any distinct idea of the amount of labor and research connected with this department. The reports of foreign bodies must be examined, carefully digested, and great care as well as good judgment are essential in order to select what is useful and reject what is of no service to us. Anyone who reads our foreign correspondence must agree with me in saying the work is ably and conscientiously performed, and my view in this respect is amply supported by the remarks of the editors of the same subject in foreign reports.

IN MEMORIAM.

Brief reference was made in my last address to the serious illness of our revered brother, Daniel Spry, Past Grand Master of this Grand Lodge, and the hope was expressed that the Great Architect of the Universe would spare him, and that at the present communication we might all be enabled to rejoice with and congratulate him on complete restoration to health. But how true and significant is the saying that "Man proposes and God disposes!" Ere we had well returned to our homes from the last meeting, Brother Spry had passed away, and this Grand Lodge as well as other supreme bodies of Masonry were called upon to mourn the loss of one of the brightest ornaments of the Fraternity. His was a life of unswerving integrity, replete with well-directed energy and usefulness, and the archives of every body with which he was connected contain innumerable evidences of his experienced and well-balanced mind. Brother Spry was open and frank, and he commanded the respect and confidence of all who had intercourse or dealings with him. His popularity was not of the will-o'-the-wisp character; it was not sought or secured by trickery or any deviation from principle. He was, in a word, the friend of all, the enemy of none, whose conduct through life could stand the searchlight of truth. Those who knew him best loved him most.

Daniel Spry's name was a household word in Canadian Masonic annals, and was well and favorably known beyond the limits of the Dominion. His brethren knew him as one intensely devoted to the spreading of Masonic principles; and no matter where his lot was cast during the thirty-nine years of his Masonic career, his tongue and pen were freely given to the advancement and development of the grand tenets inculcated by our beloved order. To the young craftsman, Bro. Spry was ever a warm friend and sagacious counsellor. Few, if any, ever sought his advice without feeling that they had been signally favored by the intercourse enjoyed, and intellectually benefited by the knowledge received from him.

His presence at our meetings was at all times hailed with pleasure. He possessed a personal magnetism which drew to him a large circle of companions whose friendship he valued and appreciated very highly. The secret of his phenomenal success in the different branches of Masonry with which he was connected was, in a large measure, due to his manly advocacy of questions affecting the rights and privileges of the brethren, and his arguments, based upon a long experience and an intimate knowledge of the questions under consideration, were cogent models of brevity and diction, and delivered with a force which seldom failed to carry conviction and success to the cause which he supported. His was an individuality which only those in opposition to him could fully appreciate. He has been called to the Grand Lodge above. Let us hope that those who are left behind will endeavor to follow in his footsteps, and resolve to carry out in our several walks of life the lessons he inculcated and the principles he advocated. To his widow and family this Grand Body extends its sincere condolence. He is dead, and nothing remains to us and them but the undying memories of a noble life devoted to the Craft he loved so well. His Masonic record will doubtless form a notable chapter in one or more of the reports to be presented at this Communication, and need not be further referred to by me at this time. Suffice it that in nearly all the bodies with which our late companion was identified, he had sat in the Grand East, an honor vouchsafed to very few in the entire Masonic universe. I recommend that a suitable memorial page be inscribed to his memory and a resolution of condolence be forwarded to the widow and family of our deceased brother.

The shadow of death during the interim of Grand Lodge also crossed the threshold of two of the most valued and respected members of the Board of General Purposes, and we mourn the loss of R. W. Bros. George C. Davis, of London, P. G. J. W. (the Chairman of the Committee on Fraternal Dead), and George Inglis, of Owen Sound, P. G. J. W. Both brethren were Masons who were never ashamed, publicly or privately, in the lodge-room or out of it, to meet a brother and speak with him of those things which tended to uplift and encourage him in the good work all should have deeply at heart. They have gone from our midst, and it is a consolation for us to feel that the Great Architect of the Universe has withdrawn them from their earthly tabernacle to enjoy with Him the everlasting joys in that Universal Temple which He has prepared for those who put their faith and trust in Him. I recommend that memorial pages be set apart in the proceedings for these

and other brethren of eminence in the Masonic world who have crossed the Dark River since last we assembled in Annual Communication.

IN CONCLUSION.

Two years ago you did me the honor of electing me your Grand Master, in the city of Belleville, by an almost unanimous vote, and again last year in the city of Brantford that confidence was renewed by my being unanimously chosen for a second term.

My brethren, you have been more than kind to me during the whole of the twenty-six years I have been a member of Grand Lodge. In other walks of life I have been shown marks of kindness and consideration, but no position I have ever had the honor to occupy has held so large or warm a place in my heart as the affectionate esteem of my Masonic brethren, and I trust I will ever continue to merit the regard which you have so generously given me.

I lay no special claim to the continued prosperity of Grand Lodge, as Grand Master. I accord most heartily the meed of praise to the loyalty of the members of the craft, to the honest and arduous work of our District Deputy Grand Masters, and last, although by no means least, to the industry, tact and ability of the Executive Officers, the Grand Secretary and the Grand Treasurer, brethren of long experience, who have assisted in making a great name for our Grand Lodge amongst the Grand Lodges of the world. They are brethren who have our respect, love and esteem, and I feel confident every brother in Grand Lodge joins me in the hope they may both be long spared to be of service to the craft.

I appreciate very highly the universal kindness, courtesy and consideration shown me on every occasion whilst visiting the lodges as Grand Master, and desire to express my deepest gratitude to the many brethren who accompanied me on my official visits, as well as to those who assisted me at the several special communications of Grand Lodge.

To my distinguished predecessors I feel grateful for their kindness and hearty co-operation in every matter tending to promote the best interest of Grand Lodge, and for their constant good will towards myself personally, which I most heartily reciprocate.

In retiring from the position of Grand Master, I ask you kindly to accept the gavel you entrusted me with, and I do so the more gladly because I feel sure my successor will be a brother who has given, and will give, his time and talents to the good of the order. The Deputy Grand Master has always

given me a most loyal and cordial support in the performance of the duties of my office. I bespeak for my successor the same loyalty, sympathy and support that the brethren have given me, in no stinted or half-heard way, during my occupancy of the Grand East, and I cannot express my wish for the prosperity of Grand Lodge or my successor as Grand Master, better than the following Scotch verses I found in the address of Grand Master Swayze, of the Grand Lodge of Kansas :

“ Dear auld cronie, joy be wi’ ye,
As ye sit in Eastern Chair ;
May ye never rue the feelin’
That interprets fash an’ care.

“ Don’t forget, tho’ sittin’ in it,
Every rose has got a thorn,
An’ promotion brings its worry,
Just as sure as you are born.

“ Dinna think ye’ll fin’ the cushion
Stuffed wi’ feathers or wi’ hair,
For my ain experience tells me,
Nettles, sometimes, get in there.

“ Moly a time the lads will bother,
Raisin’ points, in spite o’ law ;
When they do it, don’t get angry—
Gavel, though, both great an’ sma’.

“ Let a smile, however, lichten
Up your face whene’er ye rule ;
Vinegar’s a nasty acid,
An’ it never fails to cool.

“ Teach the boys mair by example
Than by precept, when ye can ;
Aye, rememb’rin’ tho’ ye’re maister,
Still, for a’ ye’re only man.

“ Joy again, my frien’, be wi’ ye,
As ye sit in Eastern Chair—
Joy as sweet as I partook o’
Thro’ twa years, when sittin’ there.”

WM. GIBSON,
Grand Master.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, seconded by M. W. Bro. W. R. White, and

Resolved.—That the Address of the M. W. the Grand Master be referred to the Board of General Purposes to report thereon.

GRAND SECRETARY'S REPORT.

To the M. W. the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

M. W. SIR AND BRETHREN,

I beg to present to Grand Lodge my Annual Report containing an account of all moneys received by me during the year and the expenditures made, with returns of subordinate lodges as at 24th June, 1898, and ledger balances at 31st May, 1898, together with, by instruction of the M. W., the Grand Master, a record of the Especial Communications summoned, dispensations issued, by-laws and amendments thereto approved, Grand Representatives appointed, and other official acts of the M. W., the Grand Master.

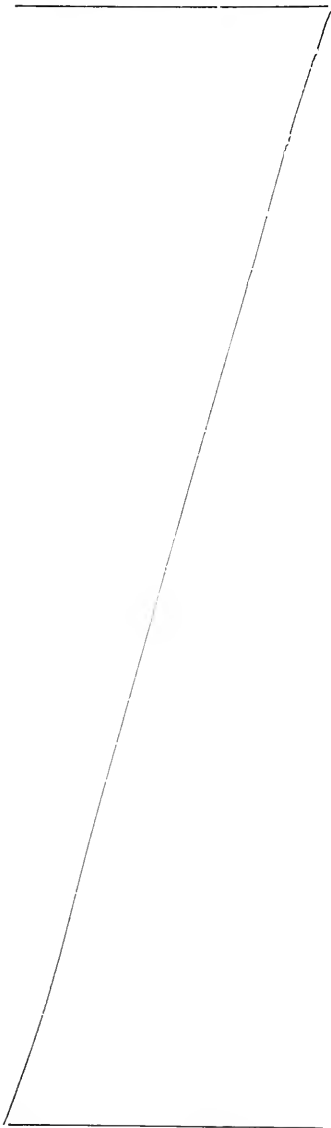
RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE.

The receipts and expenditure from 1st June, 1897, to the 31st May, 1898, have been as follows:

| RECEIPTS. | | EXPENDITURE. | |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---|-------------|
| Certificates..... | \$ 2,427 00 | Salary of Grand Secretary | \$ 2,000 00 |
| Dues..... | 11,281 15 | Salary of Grand Secretary's Assistant | 500 00 |
| Fees..... | 1,542 00 | Salary of Grand Treasurer..... | 200 00 |
| Dispensations.... | 177 00 | Salary of Stenographer..... | 300 00 |
| Constitutions.... | 385 50 | Rent of Grand Secretary's Office... | 175 00 |
| Warrants..... | 30 00 | Grand Secretary, balance for incidentals to 31st May, 1897..... | 154 24 |
| Commutations of Dues..... | 235 00 | Grand Secretary, advance for incidentals..... | 500 00 |
| Past Masters' Certificates..... | 11 00 | Expenses of the Board of General Purposes.. | 637 35 |
| Asylum Fund Interest..... | 437 00 | Expenses of the meeting of Grand Lodge at Brantford..... | 191 56 |
| General Fund Interest..... | 3,208 17 | Committee on For- | |
| Miscellaneous.... | 65 00 | | |
| <hr/> | | | |
| <i>Carried forward...</i> | | <i>Carried forward....</i> | |
| | \$19,798 82 | | \$4,958 15 |

Brought forward.. \$19,798 82

Brought forward... \$4,958 15



| | |
|--|----------|
| eign Correspondence | 100 00 |
| The Copp, Clark Co'y, on account certificates, etc... | 600 00 |
| The Spectator Printing Co'y, on account of printing..... | 1,152 44 |
| J. Eastwood & Co., for stationery... | 76 90 |
| Premium on Grand Secretary's Bond | 50 00 |
| Insurance on Grand Lodge regalia .. | 17 50 |
| Masonic Relief Association, United States and Canada | 112 65 |
| Expenses of Committee on Masonic Asylum... | 36 60 |
| Chairman of Committee on Benevolence, for postage, etc | 15 00 |
| Expenses of M. W. Bro. Gibson when D. G. M., acting for the G. M. at Walkerton in 1896 | 15 00 |
| Engrossing Warrants and the Address to Her Majesty the Queen | 49 00 |
| Refund to Wroxeter Lodge, No. 162..... | 36 50 |
| Expenses collecting Owen Sound, Grey and Bruce Debenture | 6 25 |
| Expenses of benevolence investigation | 337 30 |
| Orders on the Fund of Benevolence . | 8,775 00 |
| Grant to Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto... | 2,000 00 |

Total \$19,798 82

Total..... \$18,338 29

ESPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS.

By direction of the M. W., the Grand Master, Especial Communications of Grand Lodge were called as follows, viz.:

On the 27th July, 1897, at the Village of Jarvis, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of St. Paul's Church (Anglican), M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, Grand Master, officiating.

On the 12th of August, 1897, at the Town of Walkerton, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the Town Hall, M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, G. M., officiating.

On the 26th of August, 1897, at the Town of East Toronto, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the Public School, M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, Grand Master, officiating.

On the 22nd of June, 1898, at the Village of Highgate, for the purpose of laying the foundation stone of the Methodist Church, R. W. Bro. J. B. Rankin, D. D. G. M., officiating.

DEDICATIONS.

By instruction of the M. W., the Grand Master, the following halls have been dedicated for Craft purposes since the last Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, viz.:

Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 171, Lawrence Station, 29th October, 1897.

Alexandria Lodge, No. 439, Alexandria, 1st Dec., 1897.

Ottawa Masonic Hall, 19th May, 1898.

DISPENSATION FOR NEW LODGE.

In accordance with the recommendation contained in the report of the Board of General Purposes on Warrants at the last Annual Communication of Grand Lodge, a dispensation was issued on the 26th of July, 1897, for Nitetis Lodge, Creemore, County of Simcoe, in the Georgian District No. 9.

WARRANT SURRENDERED.

The warrant of Mystic Lodge, 278, Roslin was surrendered on 7th of September, 1897.

GRAND REPRESENTATIVES.

Upon the recommendation of the M. W., the Grand Master, R. W. Bro. J. E. D'Avignon, of Windsor, has been appointed Representative of the Grand Lodge of Illinois in place of R. W. Bro. G. C. Davis, deceased.

Upon the recommendation of the M. W., the Grand

Master of New Jersey, the M. W. the Grand Master has appointed M. W. Bro. Geo. W. Fortmeyer, of East Orange, our representative near the Grand Lodge of New Jersey in place of M. W. Henry R. Cannon, resigned.

Upon the recommendation of the M. W., the Grand Master, of Wisconsin, the M. W. the Grand Master has appointed M. W. Bro. Hiram W. Sawyer, of Hartford, our representative near the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin in place of R. W. Bro. Chas. Kahn, removed from the jurisdiction.

VACANCY ON BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

On the 2nd of November, 1897, the M. W., the Grand Master, was pleased to appoint R. W. Bro. Allan McLean, of Kingston, a member of the Board of General Purposes in place of R. W. Bro. Geo. C. Davis, deceased.

LODGE BY-LAWS.

The M. W., the Grand Master, has examined and confirmed the By-laws of the following lodges, viz. :

| | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| November 1st, 1897 . . . | Tudor Lodge, | No. 141, Mitchell. |
| November 1st, 1897 . . . | Plantagenet Lodge, | " 186, Plantagenet. |
| November 17th, 1897 . . . | Arcadia Lodge, | " 440, Minden. |
| January 22nd, 1898 | Chaudiere Lodge, | " 264, Ottawa. |
| March 15th, 1898 | St. John's Lodge, | " 75, Toronto. |
| March 23rd, 1898 | Lorne Lodge, | " 282, Glencoe. |
| June 24th, 1898 | Alexandria Lodge, | " 439, Alexandria. |

The M. W., the Grand Master, has examined, revised and confirmed amendments to the By-laws of the following lodges, viz. :

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| July 29th, 1897 | Credit Lodge, | No. 219, Georgetown. |
| August 21st, 1897 | Oxford Lodge, | " 76, Woodstock. |
| September 28th, 1897 | The Occident Lodge, | " 346, Toronto. |
| October 9th, 1897 | Harris Lodge, | " 216, Orangeville. |
| October 9th, 1897 | Rehoboam Lodge, | " 65, Toronto. |
| October 11th, 1897 | Pembroke Lodge, | " 128, Pembroke. |
| November 17th, 1897 | Clifton Lodge, | " 254, Niagara Falls. |
| December 13th, 1897 | Lodge of Fidelity, | " 231, Ottawa. |
| March 14th, 1898 | Orient Lodge, | " 339, Toronto. |
| March 31st, 1898 | Alpha Lodge, | " 384, Toronto. |
| March 31st, 1898 | Great Western Lodge, | " 47, Windsor. |
| March 31st, 1898 | New Hope Lodge, | " 279, Hespeler. |
| April 6th, 1898 | King Solomon's Lodge, | " 22, Toronto. |
| April 20th, 1898 | Sharon Lodge, | " 97, Sharon. |
| May 4th, 1898 | Wilson Lodge, | " 113, Waterford. |
| June 21st, 1898 | St. John's Lodge, | " 284, Brussels. |
| June 24th, 1898 | Vaughan Lodge, | " 54, Maple. |
| July 4th, 1898 | Dalhousie Lodge, | " 52, Ottawa. |
| July 7th, 1898 | Petrolia, | " 194, Petrolia. |
| July 16th, 1898 | Minden Lodge, | " 253, Kingston. |

DISPENSATIONS.

I have issued by instruction of the M. W., the Grand Master, the following dispensations, viz.:

| DATE. | No. OF LODGE. | NAME OF LODGE. | WHERE HELD. | FOR WHAT GRANTED. |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------------------|-------------------|--|
| July 17, 1897.. | 300 | Mt. Olivet..... | Thorndale..... | To Attend Divine Service. |
| Aug. 24, " " | 343 | Georgina..... | Toronto..... | " Change Night of Meeting for Sept. |
| Sept. 4, " " | 320 | Chesterville..... | Chesterville..... | " Attend Pic-Nic. |
| " 13, " " | 27 | Strict Observance | Hamilton..... | " Attend Conversatione. |
| " 30, " " | 16 | St. Andrews..... | Toronto..... | " Attend Banquet. |
| Oct. 6, " " | 109 | Albion..... | Harrowsmith..... | " Unveil a Monument. |
| Nov. 15, " " | 195 | The Tuscan..... | London..... | " Attend an At Home. |
| " 26, " " | 86 | Wilson..... | Toronto..... | " Change Night of Meeting for Dec. |
| Dec. 1, " " | 326 | Zeland..... | Toronto..... | " Change Night of Meeting for Dec. |
| " 9, " " | 100 | Valley..... | Dundas..... | " Attend an At Home. |
| " 13, " " | 222 | Marmora..... | Marmora..... | " Change Night of Meeting for Dec. |
| " 13, " " | 292 | Robertson..... | King..... | " Change Night of Meeting for Dec. |
| " 13, " " | 352 | Granite..... | Parry Sound..... | " Attend an At Home. |
| " 14, " " | 22 | King Solomon and..... | Toronto..... | " Change Night of Meeting for Dec. |
| " 14, " " | 438 | Harmony..... | Toronto..... | " Change Night of Meeting for Dec. |
| " 15, " " | 115 | Ivy..... | Beausville..... | " Hold Regular Meeting in Assembly Hall. |
| " 15, " " | 141 | Tudor..... | Mitchell..... | " Install. |
| " 16, " " | 192 | Orillia..... | Orillia..... | " Install. |
| " 17, " " | 376 | Unity..... | Huntsville..... | " Install. |
| " 20, " " | 127 | Frank..... | Frankford..... | " Install. |
| " 21, " " | 113 | Wilson..... | Waterford..... | " Install. |
| " 22, " " | 74 | St. James'..... | Maitland..... | " Install. |

DISPENSATIONS—Continued.

| DATE. | No. of LODGE. | NAME OF LODGE. | WHERE HELD. | FOR WHAT GRANTED. |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------------|---------------------|--|
| Dec. 23, 1897.. | 180 | Speed | Guelph | To Install. |
| " 23, " .. | 24 | St. Francis | Smith's Falls | " Attend an At Home |
| " 23, " .. | 343 | Georgina | Toronto | " Install. |
| " 23, " .. | 287 | Shuniah | Port Arthur | " Install in Fort William Lodge No. 415. |
| " 23, " .. | 287 | Shuniah | Port Arthur | " Attend Divine Service. |
| " 24, " .. | 166 | Burford | Burford | " Install. |
| " 28, " .. | 359 | Vittoria | Vittoria | " Install. |
| " 28, " .. | 433 | Bonnechere | Eganville | " Install. |
| " 29, " .. | 393 | Forest | Chesley | " Install. |
| " 29, " .. | 399 | Florence | Florence | " Install. |
| " 30, " .. | 299 | Leamington | Leamington | " Install. |
| " 30, " .. | 371 | Prince of Wales | Ottawa | " Elect and Install. |
| " 24, " .. | 217 | Frederick | Delhi | " Install. |
| Jan. 3, 1898.. | 143 | Friendly Bros | Froquois | " Install. |
| " 4, " .. | 418 | Maxville | Maxville | " Install. |
| " 6, " .. | 325 | Orono | Orono | " Install. |
| " 10, " .. | 247 | Ashlar | Toronto | " Attend an At Home. |
| " 18, " .. | 343 | Georgina | Toronto | " Attend an At Home. |
| " 21, " .. | 85 | Rising Sun | Athens | " Install. |
| " 22, " .. | 394 | King Solomon | Thamesford | " Attend an At Home. |
| " 24, " .. | 435 | Havelock | Havelock | " Install. |
| " 24, " .. | 384 | Alpha | Toronto | " Attend an At Home. |
| " 25, " .. | 396 | Cedar | Warton | " Attend an At Home. |

DISPENSATIONS—Continued.

| DATE. | No. OF LODGE. | NAME OF LODGE. | WHERE HELD. | FOR WHAT GRANTED. |
|-----------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| Jan. 27, 1898.. | 326 | Zetland | Toronto | To Attend an At Home. |
| " 25, " .. | 286 | Wingham | Wingham | " Attend an At Home. |
| Feb. 2, " .. | 31 | Jerusalem | Bowmanville | " Install. |
| " 7, " .. | 229 | Ionic | Brampton | " Attend an At Home. |
| " 11, " .. | 218 | Stevenson | Toronto | " Attend an At Home. |
| " 15, " .. | 65 | Rehoboth | Toronto | " Attend an At Home. |
| " 15, " .. | 415 | Fort William | Fort William | " Attend an At Home. |
| " 14, " .. | 346 | The Occident | Toronto | " Attend an At Home. |
| " 16, " .. | 125 | Cornwall | Cornwall | " Attend an At Home. |
| " 21, " .. | 431 | Scott | Grand Valley | " Attend Conversation. |
| Mar 4, " .. | 430 | Acacia | East Toronto | " Attend an At Home. |
| " 16, " .. | 20 | St. John's | London | " Attend an At Home. |
| " 18, " .. | 387 | Lansdowne | Lansdowne | " Install in Lodge No. 242. |
| Apr. 10, " .. | 82 | St. John's | Paris | " Elect Officers. |
| May " " .. | 247 | Ashlar | Toronto | " Meet on Other Date. |
| " 17, " .. | 185 | Enniskillen | York | " Attend Divine Service. |
| " 26, " .. | 217 | Frederick | Delhi | " Attend Divine Service. |
| " " " .. | U. D. | Powassan | Powassan | " Attend Divine Service. |
| June 6, " .. | 110 | Central | Prescott | " Attend Divine Service. |
| " 14, " .. | 441 | Westport | Westport | " Attend Divine Service. |
| " 15, " .. | 193 | Scotland | Scotland | " Attend Divine Service. |
| " 21, " .. | 370 | Harmony | Delta | " Install. |
| " 24, " .. | 63 | St. John's | Carleton Place | " Install. |

DISPENSATIONS—Continued.

| DATE. | NO. OF LODGE. | NAME OF LODGE. | WHERE HELD. | FOR WHAT GRANTED. |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| June 24, 1898.. | 319 | Hiram | Hagersville..... | To Attend Divine Service. |
| July 2, " .. | 405 | Mattawa | Mattawa | " Install. |
| " 2, " .. | 368 | Salem | Brockville | " Elect and Install. |
| " 5, " .. | 166 | Wentworth..... | Stoney Creek..... | " Concert. |

Fraternally submitted,

J. J. Maxton
Grand Secretary.

HAMILTON, 14th July, 1898.

GRAND TREASURER'S REPORT.

Annual Communication at Toronto, 20th July, 1898.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

I herewith submit a Statement of the Receipts and Disbursements of Grand Lodge, for the year ending 31st May, 1898.

| | |
|---|--------------------|
| The balance at the credit of the Current Account in the Canadian Bank of Commerce on the 1st June, 1897, was..... | \$14,202 17 |
| During the year I have received (exclusive of the sum of \$4,993.75 received from the payment of the \$5,000 Debenture of the Owen Sound, Grey & Bruce Loan Co'y) from Grand Secretary..... | 19,798 82 |
| From the Owen Sound, Grey & Bruce Loan & Debenture Co..... | 4,993 75 |
| | <u>\$38,994 74</u> |
| The expenditure for general purposes during the year was..... | \$ 7,557 04 |
| For benevolence, (including grant of \$2,000 to Hospital for Sick Children)..... | 10,775 00 |
| For the Asylum Fund | 79 00 |
| | <u>18,411 04</u> |
| Balance in Bank on 3rd of June, 1898..... | \$20,583 70 |

The attached balance sheet shows the amount at the credit of the General Fund, and the Asylum Fund respectively, on the 31st of May, 1898, and the sums invested in the respective companies, with rate of interest.

All the Debentures are in the custody of the Canadian Bank of Commerce for safe keeping.

STATEMENT—GENERAL FUND.

*The Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free & Accepted Masons of Canada,
in the Province of Ontario, in account with HUGH MURRAY,
Grand Treasurer.*

1897. DISBURSEMENTS.

| | | |
|-----------|--|-----------|
| June 30— | Paid Masonic Hall Association rent to 31st March, 1898..... | \$ 175 00 |
| " 30— | " Grand Secretary, salary to date..... | 500 00 |
| " 30— | " Assistant to Grand Sec'y, salary to date.. | 200 00 |
| " 30— | " Stenographer, salary to date..... | 75 00 |
| " 30— | " Grand Treasurer, salary to date..... | 50 00 |
| July 31— | " Expenses of Com. on Masonic Asylum... | 13 60 |
| Aug. 31— | " R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, postage re benevolence..... | 15 00 |
| Sept. 30— | " J. Eastwood & Co'y, for stationery..... | 76 90 |
| " 30— | " Premium on Grand Secretary's Guarantee Bond..... | 50 00 |
| " 30— | " Spectator Printing Co'y, balance acct. to May 18, 1897..... | 152 44 |
| " 30— | " M. W. Bro. Hy. Robertson, report on Foreign Correspondence..... | 100 00 |
| " 30— | " Gen. Masonic Relief Asso., Annual Sub.. | 112 65 |
| " 30— | " Grand Sec'y's incidentals to May 31, 1897 | 154 24 |
| " 30— | " Grand Sec'y's advance for incidentals.... | 500 00 |
| " 30— | " Expenses of Board of General Purposes.. | 629 35 |
| " 30— | " Expenses Meeting of G. L. at Brantford.. | 191 56 |
| " 30— | " Copp, Clark & Co., printing Certificates and Warrants on account..... | 600 00 |
| " 30— | " R.W. Bro. J. B. Nixon, on acct. ben. inv'g'n | 100 00 |
| " 30— | " Grand Sec'y, salary to date..... | 500 00 |
| " 30— | " Assistant to Grand Sec'y, salary to date. | 200 00 |
| " 30— | " Stenographer, salary to date..... | 75 00 |
| " 30— | " Grand Treasurer, salary to date..... | 50 00 |
| " 30— | " M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, expenses acting for G. M. at Walkerton when D. G. M. '96 | 15 00 |
| Oct. 31— | " R.W. Bro. J. B. Nixon, on acct. ben. inv'g'n | 100 00 |
| " 31— | " R.W. Bro. J. B. Nixon, " " " | 100 00 |
| " 31— | " Grand Sec'y, additional expenses, Board of G. P..... | 8 00 |
| Nov. 30— | " Wm. Bruce, engrossing address to Her Majesty, the Queen..... | 37 00 |
| Dec. 31— | " R.W. Bro. J. B. Nixon, bal. for ben. inv'g'n | 37 30 |
| " 31— | " Grand Secretary, salary to date..... | 500 00 |
| " 31— | " Assistant to Grand Sec'y, salary to date.. | 200 00 |
| " 31— | " Stenographer, salary to date..... | 75 00 |
| " 31— | " Grand Treasurer, salary to date..... | 50 00 |

| 1898. | | | |
|-------|-----|---|-------------------|
| Feb. | 28— | Paid Wm. Bruce, engrossing warrants | 12 00 |
| " | 28— | " Expenses of Com. on Masonic Asylum | 23 00 |
| Mar. | 31— | " Grand Secretary, salary to date | 500 00 |
| " | 31— | " Assistant to Grand Sec'y, salary to date | 200 00 |
| " | 31— | " Stenographer, salary to date | 75 00 |
| " | 31— | " Grand Treasurer, salary to date | 50 00 |
| April | 30— | " Manchester Ins. Co., Ins. on Regalia | 17 50 |
| " | 30— | " Spectator Printing Co., on acct. printing | 1,000 00 |
| " | 30— | " Refund to Wroxeter Lodge No. 162 | 36 50 |
| " | 30— | " Canadian Bank of Commerce, commission collecting Owen Sound, Grey & Bruce Debenture | 6 25 |
| May | 31— | " Benevolent orders as per list | 8,775 00 |
| " | 31— | " Donation to Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto | 2,000 00 |
| " | 31— | " Balance as per balance sheet | 80,355 95 |
| | | | <u>§98,694 24</u> |

RECEIPTS.

| | | | | |
|-------|-------|-----|--|-------------------|
| 1897. | June | 1— | Balance as per balance sheet | §79,332 42 |
| | Sept. | 30— | By Grand Secretary | 5,000 00 |
| | Nov. | 29— | By Grand Secretary | 146 80 |
| 1898. | | | | |
| | Feb. | 2— | By Grand Secretary | 4,000 00 |
| | May | 17— | By Grand Secretary | 6,500 00 |
| | " | 31— | By Grand Secretary | 2,100 00 |
| | " | 31— | By Grand Secretary | 98 37 |
| | June | 1— | By Grand Secretary | 1,303 65 |
| | " | 3— | By Grand Secretary | 213 00 |
| | | | | <u>§98,694 24</u> |

STATEMENT—ASYLUM FUND.

| | | | | |
|-------|-------|-----|---|-------------------|
| 1897. | May | 31— | By balance as per balance sheet | §14,869 75 |
| 1898. | | | | |
| | May | 31— | By Grand Secretary | 437 00 |
| | | | | <u>§15,306 75</u> |
| 1897. | | | | |
| | Sept. | 30— | To paid Yamaska Lodge, No. 27, Que- bec Registry | §26 00 |
| | Dec. | 31— | To paid Nelson Lodge, No. 8, Q. R. | 53 00 |
| | | | | <u>79 00</u> |
| | | | | <u>§15,227 75</u> |

Grand Lodge A. F. & A. Fl. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

BALANCE SHEET, MAY 31ST, 1898

| | | | |
|---|-------------|--------------------|-------------|
| DEBENTURES— | | General Fund | \$80,355 95 |
| The British Canadian Loan and In. Co., at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ % | \$15,000 00 | Asylum Fund | 15,227 75 |
| The Huron & Erie Loan & Savings Co., at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ % | 15,000 00 | | |
| The Western Canada Loan & Savings Co., at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ % | 10,000 00 | | |
| The Canada Permanent Loan and Savings Co., at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ % | 10,000 00 | | |
| The Landed Banking & Loan Co., at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ % | 10,000 00 | | |
| The Landed Banking & Loan Co., at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ % | 5,000 00 | | |
| The Ontario Loan & Debenture Co., at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ % | 5,000 00 | | |
| The Canadian Savings & Loan Co., at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ % | 5,000 00 | | |
| | \$75,000 00 | | |
| CURRENT ACCOUNT— | | | |
| Balance in Canadian Bank of Commerce | \$20,583 70 | | |
| | \$95,583 70 | | \$95,583 70 |

We certify that the debentures named and set forth in the balance sheet are in the custody of the Bank of Commerce for safe keeping, and that the above mentioned balance, \$20,583.70, was at the credit of the current account of the Grand Lodge at the close of business on the 31st of June, 1898.

For the Canadian Bank of Commerce, Hamilton.

(Signed) WM. ROBERTS, Manager,
E. P. GOWER, Accountant.

Hamilton, 11th July, 1898.

**PAYMENTS BY THE GRAND TREASURER ON ACCOUNT
OF BENEVOLENCE.**

| June | 1897. | Aug. | 1897. |
|--------|------------------------------|------|------------------------------|
| 30 | Miss Mary M. Harris, \$18 75 | 31 | Alex. S. McIntyre .. 10 00 |
| 30 | Mrs. J. Schobel .. 25 00 | 31 | Mrs. Thos. S. Agar... 10 00 |
| 30 | Mrs. W. J. Palmer... 10 00 | 31 | Mrs. Wm. Ramsay... 20 00 |
| 30 | Mrs. J. Lattimer 20 00 | 31 | Mrs. James Allen.... 10 00 |
| July | | 31 | Mrs. Stephen Town- |
| 31 | Mrs. Wm. Leany..... 15 00 | | send 10 00 |
| 31 | Miss Mary Wilson ... 75 00 | 31 | Mrs. Wm. Quigley... 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. W. M. Wilson .. 37 50 | 31 | Mrs. Robert Carey .. 15 00 |
| August | | 31 | Mrs. Joseph Metherell 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Jas. M. Conroy 20 00 | 31 | Mrs. Thomas Frazer. 15 00 |
| 31 | Daughter of Thomas | 31 | Mrs. Joseph Middle- |
| | Lockerty. 20 00 | | ton .. 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Amasa Lewis ... 10 00 | 31 | Mrs. John I. Garnett 20 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Andrew Kellock, 15 00 | 31 | Mrs. Adam Petrie.... 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Jos. Chantler... 10 00 | 31 | Mrs. Robert Davis... 20 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Robt. A. Kirby.. 10 00 | 31 | Mrs. Chas. E. S. Black 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Wm. Coulter ... 10 00 | 31 | Mrs. John Tremeeer 10 00 |
| 31 | Bro. J. W. Crate 25 00 | 31 | Mrs. John Hodgins .. 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. J. A. McInnes .. 10 00 | 31 | Mrs. Robert Young .. 10 00 |
| 31 | Bro. Andrew McLive, 25 00 | 31 | Mrs. W. Hunter .. 20 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Dougal McLellan 10 00 | 31 | Mrs. Richard Phillips, 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. J. R. Smith 15 00 | 31 | Mrs. Wm. Marriott... 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Samuel Steven- | 31 | Mrs. John Wills. . . . 10 00 |
| | son 10 00 | 31 | Mrs. W. A. Harvey .. 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. W. H. Ponton... 15 00 | 31 | Mrs. W. H. Street .. 10 00 |
| 31 | Bro. John Dixon..... 25 00 | 31 | Mrs. W. J. Smith.... 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Wm. Wilkinson, 20 00 | 31 | Mrs. W. F. Southcott, 15 00 |
| 31 | Bro. Fredk. Devereaux 25 00 | 31 | Mrs. Chas. A. Surdon, 20 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. G. W. Shields... 15 00 | 31 | Mrs. Jacob Le Clear.. 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Wm. Corner.... 10 00 | 31 | Mrs. Wm. Scott 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Wm. Jolley..... 10 00 | 31 | Mrs. H. L. Keifner... 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. T. D. Harington, 20 00 | 31 | Mrs. D. G. Huff 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. C. W. Wilmott.. 20 00 | 31 | Mrs Geo. Grant.... 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. A. R. Paul. . . 20 00 | 31 | Mrs. Jno. E. Edwards 10 00 |
| 31 | Brother J. A. De La | 31 | Mrs. Wm. Wakefield. 10 00 |
| | Hooke 25 00 | 31 | Mrs. Richd. Radcliffe, 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Geo. T. Porter 10 00 | 31 | Mrs. Alfred Goldsmith 10 00 |
| 31 | Bro. H. A. Wetherall 25 00 | 31 | Mrs. A. S. Wilson.... 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Wm. Widgery.. 10 00 | 31 | Mrs. Thos. Armson . 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. John Manning.. 15 00 | 31 | Mrs. Henry Hammill, 20 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Joshua Parker 15 00 | 31 | Mrs. Horatio Canning 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. McKee Conklin. 15 00 | 31 | Mrs. Henry Leirsch.. 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. James Miller . 15 00 | 31 | Mrs. Saml. M. Phoenix 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. John B. Richards 20 00 | 31 | Mrs. Arthur Lloyd... 20 00 |
| 31 | Orphans Angus Ross 20 00 | 31 | Mrs. Geo. B. Gray... 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. R. E. Harrison 15 00 | 31 | Mrs. Wm. McBurney, 20 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Robt. A. Sinclair 10 00 | 31 | Mrs. J. W. Hicks.... 20 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. T. D. Strathern 10 00 | 31 | Mrs. A. S. Lloyd.... 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. W. Holmwood... 20 00 | 31 | Mrs. Aaron Bowman 20 00 |
| 31 | John C. Hollister.... 10 00 | 31 | Mrs. Angus Campbell 15 00 |

| Aug. | 1897. | |
|------|------------------------------------|-------|
| 31 | Mrs. Thos. Cuthbertson | 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. G. S. MacFarlane | 20 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Geo. B. Gray | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Alex. I. Short | 20 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Thos. Elliott | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. David Robertson | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. James Allen | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. John K. Oliver | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. John Munro | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. John Williams | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. M. F. Powell | 20 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Geo. R. Young | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Jno. Zimmerman | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. James McKellican | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Arch'd. Graham | 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. L. G. Jolliffe | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Richard Hill | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Jas. McGibbeny | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. John Weir | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Wm. Agnew | 20 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Peter Grant | 20 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Charles Graham | 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. W. A. Fowler | 20 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. John Evans | 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Robert Marcus | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Thos. J. Johnston | 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. James L. Young | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. John Pigot | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. W. H. Matthews | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Wm. Buskard | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Geo. Hampton | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. A. C. Coombs | 25 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. F. C. Corce | 20 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Adam Armstrong | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Walter Webb | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. George Christie | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Anthony Davey | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. David Ross | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. John H. Wright | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. McNeil Clarke | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Peter Patterson | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Wm Sharpe | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Leslie Wright | 20 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. John Kennedy | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Thos. Stafford | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Thos. McC. Lawrence | 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Fred Bailey | 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. James Malcolm | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Geo. Eddlestone | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. L. G. Choquette | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Thos. R. Shaw | 10 00 |

| Aug. | 1897. | |
|------|---------------------------------------|-------|
| 31 | Mrs. Thos. Brock | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. G. H. Baillie | 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. John Wright | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. James Hortop | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. L. D. Comins | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. W. J. Arniel | 20 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. W. B. Simpson | 50 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. James Blue | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Alex. Miller | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Andrew Milne | 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Hy. Richardson | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. J. W. McDonald | 20 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. James Young | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. C. W. Noble | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Wm. Johnston | 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Nathan H. Smith | 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Alex. Baptie | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Geo. Godfrey | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. T. G. Hurst | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Mat. C. Brown | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. David Wilcox | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Jas. E. Bogart | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. W. B. Wallace | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. John Vaux | 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. James Fulton | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Samuel Redpath | 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. John Kingston | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Robert Gibson | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. James Woodrow | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Wm. Wilson | 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Wm. Leckie | 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Henry Hall | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. J. G. Jorgenson | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. John Jackson | 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. David Small | 20 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Fk. S. Hubbard | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. John Heslop | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Ronald Campbell | 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Wm. Mills | 20 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. John Thompson | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Walter McKay | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Thos. Vessey | 15 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. John Abbott | 10 00 |
| 31 | Mrs. Mat. T. Haney | 15 00 |
| 31 | Mother of James B. Cummings | 20 00 |
| 31 | Wife of S. M. Davis | 20 00 |
| 31 | Orphans of John R. Steele | 20 00 |
| 31 | Orphans of John F. Hope | 10 00 |
| 31 | Orphans of Wm. Kerr | 10 00 |
| 31 | Orphans of Stephen Smith | 20 00 |
| 31 | Orphans of R. J. McAuslan | 15 00 |

| Aug. 1897. | Oct. | 1897 |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------|
| 31 Orphans of Jno. Jenkins..... 20 00 | 30 Mrs. Jas. Greenfield.. | 10 00 |
| 31 Orphans of Jno. Leitch 15 00 | 30 Mrs. John J. Fields.. | 15 00 |
| 31 Daughter of Francis Covell..... 7 50 | 30 Mrs. Lionel Yorke ... | 20 00 |
| 31 Daughter of Sir. R. H. Bonnycastle..... 15 00 | 30 Mrs. Levi Neal | 10 00 |
| 31 Daughter of John Dean..... 25 00 | 30 Mrs. A. S. Baker | 20 00 |
| 31 Daughter of Joshua G. Burns.... 7 50 | 30 Mrs. Arthur W. Bice.. | 20 00 |
| 31 Daughter of John A. Blott..... 10 00 | 30 Mrs. Robert White... 10 00 | |
| 31 Bro. John L. Dixon.. 25 00 | 30 Mrs. Chas. Bennett.. | 20 00 |
| 31 " Chas. Scrsborough 25 00 | 30 Mrs. Peter Spencer... 10 00 | |
| 31 " Jos. Blackburn.. 25 00 | 30 Mrs. Matthew G. Vandervort | 10 00 |
| 31 " C. R. Barker.... 25 00 | 30 Mrs. James S. Baker.. | 10 00 |
| 31 " Edment Hill ... 25 00 | 30 James C. Edwards... 10 00 | |
| 31 " Thos. H. Butler.. 25 00 | 30 John Sutherland.... | 10 00 |
| 31 " F. McEdwards.. 25 00 | November | |
| 31 Bro. Phyl'der Meyers 25 00 | 30 Mrs. E. Kester | 15 00 |
| 31 " Wm. Campbell.. 25 00 | 30 Mrs. Wm. Parney... 10 00 | |
| 31 " John C. Williams 25 00 | 30 Mrs. Wm. McCadden.. | 10 00 |
| 31 " Russell S. Warner 25 00 | 30 Mrs. Jas. Hagerman.. | 10 00 |
| 31 " Walter Hume... 25 00 | 30 Mrs. Arthur W. Sico.. | 20 00 |
| 31 " Alex. Bain .. 25 00 | 30 Mrs. William Allen .. | 10 00 |
| 31 " John Chasely... 25 00 | 30 Mrs. Thos. Richard-son | 20 00 |
| 31 " Henry Newton.. 25 00 | 30 Mrs. Walter Holm-wood | 20 00 |
| 31 " R. Farquharson.. 25 00 | 30 Mrs. L. H. Stoneheim | 15 00 |
| 31 " John Munro.... 25 00 | 30 Mrs. Wm. McCargon | 15 00 |
| 31 " Peter Brown... 25 00 | 30 Mrs. Wm. Pickhover.. | 10 00 |
| 31 " Joseph Carswell.. 25 00 | 30 Mrs. Francis Elking-ton | 10 00 |
| 31 " E. J. Halliday... 15 00 | 30 Brother Henry Sell.. | 25 00 |
| 31 " James Bowman.. 25 00 | 30 Daughter of Malcolm McPhail..... | 10 00 |
| 31 " John C. Woods.. 25 00 | December | |
| 31 " Arch. Cowper... 25 00 | 31 Mother of Jno. McKee | 10 00 |
| 31 " Frank P. Gassion 25 00 | 31 Bro. John Polley.... | 25 00 |
| 31 " L. W. Whitney . 25 00 | 31 " David McNab ... | 20 00 |
| October | 31 " Thos. R. Wood... 20 00 | |
| 30 Bro. W. A. Rombough 25 00 | 31 " John Scott | 20 00 |
| 30 " Edward Green . 25 00 | 31 Mrs. John Best. | 10 00 |
| 30 Miss Mary M. Harris 18 75 | 31 Mrs. John Villiers ... | 20 00 |
| 30 Mrs. W. M. Wilson.. 37 50 | 31 Mrs. Jessie W. Minor, | 10 00 |
| 30 Miss Mary Wilson . 75 00 | 31 Mrs. John Quirk... 15 00 | |
| 30 Orphans of Samuel V. Perry | 31 Mrs. Jos. Brookbank.. | 15 00 |
| 10 00 | 31 Mrs. W. B. Simpson . | 25 00 |
| 30 Orphans of T. Palmer 10 00 | 31 Mrs. Geo. Goslin..... | 5 00 |
| 30 Mrs. George Dunlop. 25 00 | 31 Mrs. W. E. Johnson.. | 10 00 |
| 30 Mrs. Wm. Perry.... 20 00 | January 1898. | |
| 30 Mrs. Wm. Leany... 15 00 | 31 Mrs. Wm. M. Wilson, | 37 50 |
| 30 Mrs. Edward Wassel. 10 00 | 31 Mrs. Arthur W. Wood-house | 15 00 |
| 30 Mrs. A. C. Inwood... 10 00 | 31 Mrs. Oliver Young ... | 20 00 |
| 30 Mrs. Wm. Whitters.. 20 00 | 31 Mrs. John Harvey... 10 00 | |
| 30 Mrs. Samuel Latimer 20 00 | 31 Mrs. Robert Vardon . | 10 00 |
| 30 Mrs. Wm. McCadden 10 00 | 31 Mrs. John Kennedy.. | 10 00 |
| 30 Mrs. Wm. McCadden. 10 00 | 31 Mrs. Jas. M. Conroy.. | 20 00 |

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| Jan. | 1897. | Feb | 1897. |
|-----------|---------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------|
| 31 | Mrs. Thos. G. Shaw.. | 28 | Orphans of John F. Hope |
| 31 | Mrs. George Christie, | 28 | Orphans of Wm. Kerr |
| 31 | Mrs. Wm. Wilkinson, | 38 | Wife of S. M. Davis.. |
| 31 | Mrs. Jos. Wetherall.. | 28 | " Robt. Hassard |
| 31 | Mrs. T. D. Harington, | 28 | Daughter of Joshua |
| 31 | Mrs. Wm. Jolley | | G. Burns |
| 31 | Mrs. Wm. Corner | 28 | Daughter of James A. |
| 31 | Mrs. John Manning.. | | Blott |
| 31 | Mrs. Robert Carey . . . | 28 | Daughter of Malcolm |
| 31 | Mrs. Joshua Parker | | McPhail |
| 31 | Mrs. John T. Garnett | 28 | Daughter (Helen) of |
| 31 | Mrs. W. H. Ponton . . . | | John Munro |
| 31 | Mrs. C. A. Burdon . . . | 28 | Daughter of Francis |
| 31 | Mrs. A. C. Coombs . . . | | Covell |
| 31 | Miss Mary Wilson . . . | 28 | Daughter of Sir R. H. |
| 31 | Miss Mary M. Harris. | | Bonnycastle |
| 31 | Daughter Thos. Loch- | 28 | Mrs. John Thompson, |
| | erty | 28 | Mrs. A. C. Inwood . . |
| 31 | Bro. Wm. Campbell.. | 28 | Mrs. A. S. Lloyd |
| 31 | " Phillip Heury | 28 | Mrs. Thos. Richardson |
| Februray. | | 28 | Mrs. David Robertson |
| 28 | Bro. James Bowman. | 28 | Mrs. Wm. Allen |
| 28 | " John Polley | 28 | Mrs. Ronald Campbell |
| 28 | " John Chasely | 28 | Mrs. W. H. Matthews |
| 28 | " N. Farquharson. | 28 | Mrs. Jno. Zimmerman |
| 28 | " F. McEdwards | 28 | Mrs. Fred Bailey |
| 28 | " Henry Sell | 28 | Mrs. James H. Wright |
| 28 | " Archibald Couper | 28 | Mrs. John C. Hollister |
| 28 | " Henry Newton | 28 | Mrs. John Pigott |
| 28 | " Fred. Devereaux. | 28 | Mrs. Robert E. Harri- |
| 28 | " Walter Hume | | son |
| 28 | " C. R. Barker | 28 | Mrs. Wm. Mills |
| 28 | " Thos. R. Woods | 28 | Mrs. D. C. Comins |
| 28 | " C. Scarborough.. | 28 | Mrs. G. W. Shields . . . |
| 28 | " John Scott | 28 | Mrs. Walter McKay . . . |
| 28 | " Edward Green | 28 | Mrs. Richard Radcliffe |
| 28 | " Phylander Myers | 28 | Mrs. S. M. Phoenix . . . |
| 28 | " Alexander Bain | 28 | Mrs. W. J. Smyth |
| 28 | " H. A. Wetherall | 28 | Mrs. Angus Campbell |
| 28 | " David McNab | 28 | Mrs. John K. Oliver . . . |
| 28 | " J. W. Crate | 28 | Mrs. Wm. Johnston . . . |
| 28 | " Andrew McLim | 28 | Mrs. John Munroe |
| 28 | " Jno. L. Dixon | 28 | Mrs. Wm. Quigley |
| 28 | " Jno. C. Williams, | 28 | Mrs. Jas. Hagerman |
| 28 | " Thos. H. Buttler, | 28 | Mrs. Arthur W. Bice |
| 28 | " Jos. Carswell | 28 | Mrs. T. G. Hurst |
| 28 | " Frank Gassion | 28 | Mrs. Wm. Wilson |
| 28 | Mother of James B. | 28 | Mrs. John Williams . . . |
| | Cummings | 28 | Mrs. Wm. Coulter |
| 28 | Orphans of T. Palmer | 28 | Mrs. McNeil Clarke . . . |
| 28 | Orphans of R. J. Mc- | 28 | Mrs. John Sutherland |
| | Auslan | 28 | Mrs. Anthony Davy |
| 28 | Orphans of Angus | 28 | Mrs. W. J. Arniel |
| | Ross | 28 | Mrs. George Goslin . . . |
| 28 | Orphans of Garvin S. | 28 | Mrs. Jno. E. Edwards |
| | Macfarlane | | |

| Feb. 1897. | Feb. 1897. |
|---|---|
| 28 Mrs. Wm. Whitters.. 20 00 | 28 Mrs. Richard Hill ... 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Wm. Crozier.... 40 00 | 28 Mrs. Geo. R. Young.. 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Peter Grant.... 20 00 | 28 Mrs. Thomas Fraser . 15 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Levi Neal . . . 10 00 | 28 Mrs. Jas. S. Baker... 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Arthur W. Wood- house 15 00 | 28 Mrs. W. B. Wallace . 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. David Ross 10 00 | 28 Mrs. A. E. Baker.... 20 00 |
| 28 Mrs. John Weir 10 00 | 28 Mrs. David Small ... 20 00 |
| 28 Mrs. William Ramsay 20 00 | 28 Mrs. Alex. J. Short.. 20 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Robert Young... 10 00 | 28 Mrs. Amasa Lewis... 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. James Horlop... 10 00 | 28 Mrs. John McDonald, 20 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Edment Hill ... 25 00 | 28 Mrs. Alex. Miller 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Peter Patterson. 10 00 | 28 Mrs. Saml. Stephenson 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. James Allen.... 10 00 | 28 Mrs. Wm. Leckie 15 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Jessie W. Minor 10 00 | 28 Mrs. Adam Petrie ... 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Thos. Armson . 10 00 | 28 Mrs. G. H. Bailie ... 15 00 |
| 28 Mrs. George Godfrey. 10 00 | 28 Mrs. Jos. Chantler... 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Thomas Brock . 10 00 | 28 Mrs. Archd. Graham. 15 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Samuel Redpath 15 00 | 28 Mrs. W. A. Harvey .. 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. W. H. Street ... 10 00 | 28 Mrs. Wm. Parney .. 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Adam Armstrong 10 00 | 28 Mrs. Chas. E. S. Black 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. John Geo. Jor- genson 10 00 | 28 Mrs. Robert Davis . 20 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Alex. S. McIntyre 10 00 | 28 Mrs. Arthur Lloyd... 20 00 |
| 28 Mrs. John B. Richard 20 00 | 28 Mrs. M. H. Powell .. 20 00 |
| 28 Mrs. John Jackson .. 15 00 | 28 Mrs. John Tremear .. 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. John Harvey ... 10 00 | 28 Mrs. John McKillican 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. James Miller ... 15 00 | 28 Mrs. Donald G. Huff. 15 00 |
| 28 Mrs. John Wright ... 10 00 | 28 Mrs. Stephen Town- send. 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Matthew F. Har- vey 15 00 | 28 Mrs. James Allen .. 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Thos. McC. Law- rence 15 00 | 28 Mrs. Robt. A. Sinclair 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Alex. Baptie ... 10 00 | 28 Mrs. Chas. Bennett 20 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Geo. Hampton .. 10 00 | 28 Mrs. Richard Phillips 15 00 |
| 28 Mrs. H'y Richardson. 10 00 | 28 Mrs. Thos. S. Agar... 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. John Kingston.. 10 00 | 28 Mrs. John Evans 15 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Wm. Pickhaver. 10 00 | 28 Mrs. Matthew C. Brown 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. John Hodgson.. 10 00 | 28 Mrs. David Wilcox... 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. James Young... 10 00 | 28 Mrs. Jos. Middleton.. 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Jas. McGibbeny. 10 00 | 28 Mrs. Wm. Parry 20 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Robert Marcus . 10 00 | 28 Mrs. Jos. Brookbank. 15 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Robert A. Kirby 10 00 | 28 Mrs. McKee Conklin. 15 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Edward Wassel. 10 00 | 28 Mrs. S. C. Edwards.. 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Nathan A. Smith 15 00 | 28 Mrs. L. G. Joliffe .. 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. John Vaux 15 00 | 28 Mrs. A. S. Wilson... 15 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Geo. B. Gray ... 10 00 | 28 Mrs. James Fittan ... 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. John Villiers ... 20 00 | 28 Mrs. Robert Gibson .. 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Geo. Eddlestone. 10 00 | 28 Mrs. John Abbott ... 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Henry Hall 10 00 | 28 Mrs. Dougal McLellan 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Richard Flood.. 40 00 | 28 Mrs. W. M. Hunter . 20 00 |
| 28 Mrs. James C. Bogart 10 00 | 28 Mrs. Thos. S. Stethorn 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. L. G. Choquette. 10 00 | 28 Mrs. Andrew Milne .. 15 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Wm. Southcote. 15 00 | 28 Mrs. Andrew Kellock. 15 00 |
| 28 Mrs. F. S. Hubbard.. 10 00 | 28 Mrs. James Woodron 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. John Quirk..... 15 00 | 28 Mrs. John A. McInnes 10 00 |
| | 28 Mrs. Thomas Vesey.. 15 00 |
| | 28 Mrs. Henry Hamill . 20 00 |
| | 28 Mrs. C. W. Willmott. 20 00 |

| Mar. 1897. | April. 1897. |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 28 Mrs. J. R. L. Smith.. 15 00 | 31 Orphan of J. R. Steele 20 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Wm. Widgery .. 10 00 | 31 Orphan of J. Jenkins. 20 00 |
| 28 Mrs. A. R. Paul..... 20 00 | 31 Orphan of J. Leitch.. 15 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Geo. T. Porter.. 10 00 | 31 Orphan of J. H. Both- |
| 28 Mrs. Lionel Yorke ... 20 00 | well 20 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Horatio Canning 10 00 | 31 Orphan of J. H. Both- |
| 28 Mrs. Jacob Le Clear.. 10 00 | well 20 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Alfred Goldsmith 10 00 | 31 Orphan of Samuel V. |
| 28 Mrs. H. L. Kifner .. 10 00 | Perry 10 00 |
| 28 Mrs. F. W. Corke.... 20 00 | 31 Orphan of Stephen |
| 28 Mrs. J. W. Hicks 20 00 | Smith 20 00 |
| 28 Mrs. John Wells .. 10 00 | 31 Bro. L. W. Whitney.. 25 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Wm. Marriott . 10 00 | 31 " John C. Wood... 25 00 |
| 28 Mrs. Wm. Sharpe.... 10 00 | 31 " Russell S. Warner 25 00 |
| March | 31 " Peter Brown 25 00 |
| 31 Bro. Jos. Blackburn.. 25 00 | April |
| 31 Mrs. W. B. Simpson. 25 00 | 30 Bro. E. J. Hallady... 15 00 |
| 31 Mrs. Robert White .. 10 00 | 30 " Chas. W. Brown, 25 00 |
| 31 Mrs. Aaron Bowman. 20 00 | 30 Mrs. Oliver Young... 20 00 |
| 31 Mrs. Fraser Elkington 10 00 | 30 Mrs. Jas. L. Young .. 10 00 |
| 31 Mrs. Thos. Blackburn 20 00 | 30 Mrs. W. E. Johnson.. 10 00 |
| 31 Mrs. John Hislop ... 10 00 | 30 Mrs. A. W. Bico 20 00 |
| 31 Mrs. Thomas Elliott 10 00 | 30 Mrs. Erastus Kester.. 15 00 |
| 31 Mrs. Wm. McCargow 15 00 | 30 Miss M. Harris 18 75 |
| 31 Mrs. Jas. A. Malcolm. 10 00 | 30 Mrs. W. M. Wilson .. 37 50 |
| 31 Mrs. Leslie Wright... 20 00 | 30 Miss Mary Wilson ... 75 00 |
| 31 Mrs. Peter Spence... 10 00 | May |
| 31 Mrs. Wm. Agnew.... 20 00 | 31 Mrs. Thos. J. Johnston 15 00 |
| 31 Mrs. C. W. Noble.... 10 00 | 31 Mrs. L. H. Blondheim 15 00 |
| 31 Mrs. William Scott .. 10 00 | 31 Mrs. Chas. Graham.. 15 00 |
| 31 Mrs. Theo. Stofford.. 10 00 | 31 Mrs. Walter Webb... 10 00 |
| 31 Mrs. George Grant... 10 00 | 31 Mrs. Samuel Latimer. 20 00 |
| 31 Mrs. Matthew G. Van- | 31 Bro. W. A. Rambaugh 25 00 |
| derwort 10 00 | 31 Orphan of Thomas E. |
| 31 Mrs. Wm. McBurney. 20 00 | Patch 10 00 |
| 31 Mrs. John Best. 10 00 | 31 Hospital for Sick Chil- |
| 31 Mrs. Henry Liersch.. 10 00 | dren, Toronto... 2,000 00 |
| 31 Mrs. John Field .. 15 00 | |
| 31 Daughters John Dean 25 00 | Total, \$10,775 00 |

All of which is fraternally submitted.

HUGH MURRAY,
Grand Treasurer.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, seconded by R. W. Bro. T. Sargent, and

Resolved, That the Reports of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer be received and referred to the Board of General Purposes.

REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, seconded by M. W. Bro. W. R. White, and

Resolved, That the Reports from the various District Deputy Grand Masters be received, considered as read, and referred to the Board of General Purposes.

ERIE DISTRICT, No. 1.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

In approaching the duties assumed by me in this Masonic district, I carefully read over the report of the Grand Lodge on the condition of Masonry, and also the reports of several of my predecessors, for the purpose of making myself acquainted with the existing condition of the lodges and the requirements for the general improvement thereof. It was my intention to have had at least two lodges of instruction during my term of office, but owing to the claims of business upon my time, I found it impossible to carry the same into effect. As a general rule lodges of instruction are attended by the most expert brethren, while those who are most in need of instruction are left to obtain it in their respective lodges. To correct this in as great a measure as possible, I collected the difficulties encountered in the various lodges and reviewed them at each subsequent visit, thus bringing the information within the reach of every member present.

My chief aim was to base all instructions upon a method of reasoning instead of an effect of memory, and to bring out prominently what I consider the two great principles of work in a lodge, namely, the use of language and the use of action. I impressed upon all officers the absolute necessity of slowness, emphasis and accent in the use of language, so as to bring out the idea intended to be conveyed with as much force as possible, while on the contrary quickness and precision should characterize all action. The brethren, in putting these principles into practice in my presence, were in a position to see the beneficial effect produced upon the proceedings in the lodge.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Upon the receipt of any communication I promptly answered the same, and gave all information required in so far as it was in my power to do so.

BY-LAWS.

Lorne Lodge, No. 282, submitted to me proposed by-laws for my consideration, and which were revised by me and forwarded to the Grand Secretary, for approval by the Grand Master.

LAYING CORNER STONE.

At the request of the Grand Master, I laid the corner stone of the Methodist Church at Highgate, on the 22nd day of June. The brethren turned out in good numbers, and rendered me such assistance as only a body of masons can. The historic trowel was, I am happy to say, a vanishing quantity on this occasion, and in its place appeared a gold headed cane, which was presented by the Epworth League of the Church.

SECRETARIES.

While acknowledging the care and promptness of most of the secretaries within the district, and the regular and methodical way of recording the minutes, there are some who do not possess such alertness as should characterize many brothers filling such a responsible position. Some returns have not yet been made to me, although the forms were sent immediately upon their receipt, nearly a month ago.

ARREARS.

This unfortunate condition of things is much in evidence throughout the whole district, almost every lodge has a complaint to make and a request for a remedy. The best remedy, as it seems to me, would be to have the by-laws of each lodge so automatic as to suspend any brother who should be one year in arrears. The brother would then see the inevitable before his eyes, and would not have to wait until the good will of the lodge was stretched to its utmost tension, and in some cases beyond it.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

Windsor Lodge, No. 403: By special request of this lodge I paid my official visit on Feb. 4th, when the third degree was conferred by W. Bro. Rodd and his officers in such a manner as to call forth congratulations from myself and also

from the visiting brethren. W. Bro. Rodd had been installed in the East at the next preceding meeting, and not only exemplified the work well but also the grand principle of being always in readiness to take the next step up as well in Masonry as in active life.

Sydenham Lodge, No. 255 : The evening of the 10th March found me surrounded by enthusiastic Masons in their small but neat lodge-room. There was no scarcity of work, the first and third degrees being conferred by W. Bro. Bentley in a most acceptable manner. This lodge has one of the best secretaries in the district.

Great Western Lodge, No. 47 : On the 17th March I visited this lodge, which seemed to have burst all bounds, owing to the tide from across the river. The third degree was conferred with great credit to W. Bro. Quamby and his officers. This and the sister lodge, Windsor, are in excellent condition, with the officers and members enthusiastic and active.

Lorne Lodge, No. 282 : My official visit was paid on the 31st March. Wor. Bro. French was in the east, and with his officers conferred the first degree in a very satisfactory way.

Rodney Lodge, No. 411 : On the 7th day of April I visited this lodge. The attendance was not large but the officers were well posted and did their work in excellent order. W. Bros. Derland and Kirkpatrick have brought this lodge up to a high state of efficiency, as predicted by my predecessor in his report.

Howard Lodge, No. 391 : I was welcomed by the brethren of this lodge on the 18th day of April. The third degree was exemplified by the officers, who displayed a thorough knowledge of the work and a desire to leave nothing undone until the lodge work is in perfect condition.

Star of the East Lodge, No. 422 : By the application of the universal system of unloading, I am called upon by my predecessor to report for him upon this lodge. My inspection bears date the 20th day of April. W. Bro. Banghart and officers conferred the first degree in a very able and efficient manner. I would say that nothing less could be expected with R. W. Bro. Hickey within its walls to counsel and coach. The speed in language and in action came near to the principles already laid down. The secretary is a model.

Naphtali Lodge, No. 413 : I paid this lodge two visits, one on the 21st April, and another on the 6th July. The lodge room is the finest in the district. The third degree was conferred by W. Bro. Robertson and his officers to my entire satisfaction. The brethren have a perfect conception of what a lodge room should be and of the manner in which the work

should be done, and they are faithfully working along these lines.

Pnyx Lodge, No. 312: The 2nd of May found me in Wallaceburg to pay an official visit to this lodge. The third degree was conferred in a fairly satisfactory manner. The attendance was small partly on account of the disagreeable character of the evening. The lodge has improved very much, and there is ample evidence of a sincere desire to continue to advance. This lodge has a live secretary.

McCull Lodge, No. 386: My official visit here was on the 3rd of May. There was no work, but the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, and the work was all that could be desired. I here met Bro. McCull, after whom the lodge is named, and in him I found an enthusiastic mason and a veteran brother. The lodge is well officered.

The Hammond Lodge, No. 327: Accompanied by R. W. Bro. Hickey, W. Bro. Banghart and Bro. Johns of Star of the East Lodge, I paid my official visit to this lodge on the 3rd day of May. The second degree was conferred in an able manner by W. Bro. McKillop and his officers. This lodge does the work well, and pays great attention to detail.

Florence Lodge, No. 390: R. W. Bro. Hickey, W. Bro. Adkin and Bro. Johns of Star of the East Lodge, accompanied me to pay my official visit to this lodge on the 5th day of May. Judging from the last report of the lodge, it has made greater progress towards efficiency than any other lodge in the district. The second degree was conferred by W. Bro. Bodkin and his officers in a way altogether satisfactory.

Hightate Lodge, No. 336: On the 6th day of May I paid my official visit. The third degree was conferred upon two candidates by W. Bro. Teetzel and his officers. The work was specially well done. There is sufficient energy and ability in this lodge to carry it steadily onward.

Tecumseh Lodge, No. 245: The 10th of May found me in Thamesville on my way to pay an official visit to this lodge. W. Bro. Worth was in the east and exemplified the work in a most skillful manner, and he was ably supported by the other officers. This lodge is in a flourishing condition.

Wellington Lodge, No. 46: My official visit here was on the 20th of June. The second degree work was duly exemplified by W. Bro. Wilson, assisted by his officers. The work was well done excepting an occasional lack of accuracy in detail. Defects were pointed out with the utmost frankness, and corrections were made and exemplified. My criticisms though general were displeasing to none. I am satisfied I did not see the work done as this lodge can do it.

Kent Lodge, No. 294 : W. Bro. Freeborn, the W. M. of this lodge, has removed from the Town of Blenheim, and the chair at the time of my visit, June 24th, was occupied by W. Bro. Jamieson. The first degree was exemplified in good form. The prospects of this lodge are brightening, the only cloud being the matter of arrears. The officers are efficient and active in the discharge of their duties.

Thistle Lodge, No. 34 : This is the senior lodge in this masonic district, and the members are very proud of its historical reminiscences. I paid my official visit on the 28th day of June, and was much pleased with the way in which the first degree was conferred. I congratulated the officers and members upon the work and also upon the condition of the lodge. The secretary deserves special mention as an efficient officer.

The St. George Lodge, No. 41 : On the 30th June I paid my official visit. W. Bro. White and his officers conferred the first degree in a manner almost faultless. The officers know their work well individually and as a consequence the result is effective. The constant presence of R. W. Bro. Allworth in this lodge has a bouyant effect. I found the greatest desire for information here, and I hope it was partially satisfied.

Central Lodge, No. 402 : To this lodge I paid my official visit on the 1st day of June. W. Bro. Raines and his officers conferred the first degree in a most efficient way. Accuracy in detail is the strongest point here in the work here. All members appear to take an active interest in the welfare of the lodge.

Parvaim Lodge, No 395 : This lodge was visited by me officially on the 2nd day of June. W. Bro. Kerr and officers did their work well in opening and closing in the three degrees, there being no other work on for that evening. Arrangements are being made to get into more suitable and commodious quarters.

Leamington Lodge, No. 290 : I paid my official visit to this lodge on the 4th day of July. W. Bro. Irvine and his officers conferred the first degree in a most satisfactory manner. This is one of the foremost lodges in the district, and is rapidly increasing in members. Bro. Lincoln J. Root is its veteran member, and sets an example by the regularity of his attendance.

Parthenon Lodge, No. 267 : I left my official visit to my own lodge until the last, which took place on July 6th. W. Bro. Lulenan and his officers conferred the first degree in an admirable manner. R. W. Bro. McNabb is much in evidence in this lodge, and also in Wellington.

DISPENSATIONS.

The following dispensations were granted by me: Pnyx, No. 312, to attend Divine worship, January 2nd; Wellington, No. 46, to attend Divine worship, January 2nd; Sydenham, No. 255, to attend Divine worship, January 2nd; The St. George, No. 41, to install officers, January 6th; Howard, No. 391, to initiate a working member, January 6th; Windsor, No. 403, to install officers, January 7th; Leamington, No. 290, to attend Divine worship, June 19; Great Western, No. 47, to attend Divine worship, June 26; Parvaim, No. 395, to attend Divine worship, July 10.

APPLICATION FOR GRANT.

Sydenham Lodge, No. 255, made application for aid to widow of late Bro. D. G. Huff, which was duly approved and forwarded to the Grand Secretary.

CONDITION OF MASONRY.

Upon a review of the condition of the various lodges there appears with more or less prominence, certain matters which require prompt and continuous attention. There is a lack of accuracy in the detail of the work which strips it of that indefinable rhythm that renders the language impressive. The work of every officer of a lodge should be accurately and promptly done, otherwise the combined effect is wholly lost, the attention disappears, and the interest in the ceremony vanishes. Then there is a tendency to mix old work with new. This is very prevalent, particularly with the senior officers, and with consequences no less harmful than in Scripture times. As in all other combinations the strength of the whole is always the strength of the weakest link, so the net result produced in a lodge is the standard of the weakest officer, if not indeed below that level. Constant practice with all officers present and in their chairs at all times is the only remedy for this, and in its disappearance would, I believe, disappear many of the chronic complaints which follow in its train. A general grievance is that the rulings and instructions of the successive D. D. G. M.'s do not accord. I have no way to verify this, but if such be the case then there should be some plan adopted to secure the most absolute uniformity, so that what we insist upon in the private lodges shall not be a negative quantity in the higher ranks.

Fraternally submitted,

J. B. RANKIN, D. D. G. M.

Erie District, No. 1.

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT, No. 2.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor and pleasure to present you with this my report on the condition of Masonry in the St. Clair District, No. 2.

Notwithstanding the fact that I was somehow or other the unanimous choice of the delegates of the district in the Jubilee year of Her Most Gracious Majesty Queen Victoria, it was with feelings somewhat akin to diffidence and mistrust that I commenced the work ; but I was so warmly received, and so royally entertained by the brethren of the lodges I first visited that those feelings soon vanished.

It would not be desirable nor advisable to here point out the inefficiency of any officer, the lodge-room being the proper place for that. Whenever an error or irregularity in the esoteric or other work was pointed out and explained away, it was received in the spirit in which it was given, and I think the greatest of harmony prevails with the brethren of the district and the D. D. G. M., who is now about to lay aside the mantle of office.

As I have noticed that the best work is done by those brethren who visit other lodges, I have recommended the officers to visit sister lodges as often as convenient, as by so doing little points of difference which may prevail in some will be noticed, and an impetus given to a friendly rivalry in the correct rendition of the work.

From what I have seen of the work in other districts I have no hesitation in saying that St. Clair District will compare favorably with any in the jurisdiction of Grand Lodge.

With one or two exceptions the secretaries have given me regular notice of meetings, and all have been prompt in replying to any communication, and it gives me much pleasure to say that every lodge has a good secretary, the books being well kept, the dues pretty well attended to, the D. D. G. M. kindly provided for, and his expenses well paid, and I now thank these officers for their uniform kindness and courtesy.

A dispensation was granted to Washington Lodge, No. 260, Petrolia, to attend divine service, when W. Bro. Rev. H. Cur-

rie, the District Chaplain, officiated. One hundred and thirty-five brethren attended the service.

I visited all the lodges once, and six I visited twice.

Two lodges of instruction were held during the year, one in Sarnia, under the auspices of Victoria lodge and one in Strathroy, under the auspices of Beaver lodge. Both were well attended and I have no doubt there were brethren at each who gained more or less information.

At the first, held in Sarnia, W. Bro. R. Cogan and officers of Burns lodge exemplified the first degree, W. Bro. Boddy and officers of Forest lodge the second, and W. Bro. Weir and officers of Victoria lodge the third. Brethren were present from Victoria, Tuscan, Bismarck, Huron, Forest, Cassia, Burns, Petrolia, Leopold, Moore and St. Clair lodges, and from Port Huron. W. Bro. Weir, on behalf of the district, presented R. W. Bro. George with a D. D. G. M.'s regalia, and R. W. Bros. Harvey, Ward and Scott complimented Bro. George and spoke of the almost regal manner they had been received by the brethren of the district when acting as the representatives of the M. W. the Grand Master. The brethren of Victoria lodge invited all present to the Belchamber, where Bro. Westel treated them to the best that could be procured.

At the lodge held in Strathroy, W. Bro. W. H. Hunt and officers of Petrolia lodge exemplified the first degree, W. Bro. A. Thoman and officers of Arkona lodge the second, and W. Bro. Seed and officers of Beaver lodge the third. Brethren were present from St. John's, Beaver, Havelock, Arkona, Cassia, Petrolia, Washington, Burns and Victoria lodges. Bro. W. S. Duggan, the excellent secretary of Alexandra Lodge, was there all the way from Oil Springs.

Several points were raised and answered by P. M.'s. Bro. J. F. Howard, a young and enthusiastic mason and S. D. of Beaver raised the question, "How best to secure the regular attendance of the brethren," in which R. W. Bros. Whitehead and Lindsay, W. Bros. Sadleir, Weir and others took part.

Victoria Lodge, No. 56, Sarnia: Visited on November 2nd and found a goodly number of jolly brethren present. W. Bro. Dr. Wood conferred a second degree. Bro. Wood, in manner retiring and unassuming, is a skilled worker, is held in high esteem by his brethren and fellows, and has done such excellent work for W. Bro. Winlow, W. M., of Tuscan Lodge, who has no Past Masters of his own to assist him, that the brethren of that lodge have conferred on him honorary membership with the right of voting. W. Bro. Weir, W. M., conferred the third degree correctly and impressively, and was ably assisted by his Wardens and floor officers. Visiting brethren

ren were banqueted. I again visited in May. The Wardens and S. D. were advanced. The S. W., Bro. W. D. Hall, electrician at the tunnel, and recently admitted into the ranks of St. Benedict, was absent, from which of these two causes I am not prepared to say, but, if he is as good in the West as he was in the South—and I have no doubt he is—he is all right. Bro. J. Fowler, S. W., of Tuscan Lodge, ably filled the chair. Bro. Paul, W. M., also a Benedict, conferred the first and second degrees, and when he and his officers have hewn off the rough edges of the new chairs they will be as efficient as I found them in November, and W. Bro. Weir will have to look to his laurels. W. Bro. G. S. Samis conferred the third degree in a very acceptable manner. I like to see brother Oliver, for he has always some good advice to offer. The brethren of Victoria Lodge hold in high esteem W. Bro. Sutherland Johnston, and well they may, for he worked nobly in the cause of his lodge, and then he bears a talisman—Southerland! The brethren enjoyed themselves at the social board. I had the pleasure of meeting R. W. Bro. George at both visits.

Huron Lodge, No. 392, Camlachie: Visited on Nov. 3rd, when nearly all the available members were present. They are very enthusiastic, and a pleasant and profitable evening was spent. There being no degree work the W. M., Bro. Thos. Crawford, exemplified the first and second acceptably, the other officers doing their work very well. W. Bro. Alva Trusler, a charter member, is, and has been secretary since the lodge was constituted, except for a term of three years, when he occupied the three principal chairs. Another pillar of Huron Lodge is W. Bro. Fergus Kennedy, a whole-souled brother, who sees that the officers are ever in working order. About six years ago the brethren purchased the building in which they have a very comfortable lodge-room, but for which they are still indebted about \$100, which they expect to wipe off next year. On closing the brethren spent a very social hour in the hall under the lodge-room. I again visited in May and found the same set of jolly brethren ready for a third. The W. M., Bro. Thos. Paton, conferred the degree very well, his officers doing each his part well. Huron has good officers in the W. and S. We had the pleasure of having with us W. Bros. R. Coghlan and Neil McLean, who drove over from Wyoming. Those skilled brethren explained some points of the work for which the brethren of Huron accorded them a hearty vote of thanks. Huron is in good standing. After wiping off the debt on their hall they will have a nice balance at the end of the year. All were invited around the social board at the hotel, when justice was done the inner man.

Arkona Lodge, No. 307, Arkona : Visited on Nov. 4th. A large number of members and visitors present. Among the visitors were R. W. Bro. G. W. Holwell, W. Bros. Currie and Morrison and Bro. J. D. Neilson, now W. M. of Cassia Lodge. The W. M. Bro. Dr. Copeland conferred the first degree, and W. Bro. A. Thoman the third. This is one of the best working lodges in the district, and all the officers were highly complimented by the visiting brethren. The respected Tyler, W. Bro. John Detwiler, was unavoidably absent, which he greatly regretted. The J. W. had a fine table prepared for the brethren. I again visited on January 6th, when the newly elected officers were in their respective chairs, the S. and J. W.'s and S. B.'s having been advanced. The work of the evening was a third, which was remarkably well done, and R. W. Bro. Wm. Dawson, P. D. D. G. M. of S. Huron district, congratulated the brethren on having such an efficient staff of officers. The Secretary, W. Bro. F. Hooper, who has been several times in the master's chair, and other P. M.'s, take great interest in the work and welfare of the lodge, and see that none but good material is made use of, hence the excellence of Arkona's officers ; with a little more practice, they will be second to none. This high standing I trust the officers will maintain, so that my successor will confirm this report.

Bismarck Lodge, No. 419, Point Edward : Visited on Nov. 8th. This is the home of R. W. Bro. B. F. George, who is secretary. Notwithstanding the fact that this lodge, at the present time, is rather peculiarly situated, and its officers and members are, or nearly all railroad men, and consequently, liable to be absent, its officers are, under the guiding hand of R. W. Bro. George, fairly well up in the work. This evening the S. W., I. G. and Tyler were away on the road, but the brethren filling the chairs pro tem. went through the work in a very creditable manner. The W. M., Bro. Pearson, exemplified the first degree in a manner creditable to himself, his lodge and the R. W. Bro. at the helm. W. Bro. Weir, W. M. of Victoria lodge, and other visiting brethren complimented Bro. Pearson. The J. W. took great interest in his lecture. The brethren at the close partook of refreshment in the lodge-room.

Petrolia Lodge, No. 194, Petrolia : Visited on Nov. 10th. This is the home of R. W. Bros. John Sinclair—the man who can tell a good story—and Robt. Scott. I had the pleasure of being present at a meeting when R. W. Bro. Sinclair was presented with a silver tea service by his brethren and companions, and although it has never been the custom of Petrolia Lodge to make any special acknowledgement to retiring

officers, yet they considered the case of Bro. Scott an exceptional one, as to his zeal and untiring efforts is largely due the high position occupied by Petrolia Lodge, and so, to give a tangible expression of their esteem and regard, presented him with an exquisite Past Master's Jewel on his being elected D. D. G. M.

The work on the evening of my visit was a third, and the W. M., Bro. W. H. Hunt, said that as this was his first attempt at the degree he felt rather shaky. He had not gone far, however, before his interest in the work in hand shook off his shaky feeling, and that notwithstanding the presence of the present and two past D. D. G. M's. The officers supported each other well. All were banqueted at Bro. Denham's parlors. The officers for 1898 are Bro. Stergeon, W. M., Bro. Rev. W. Smythe, S. W., and Bro. F. H. Hayhurst, J. W. The Wardens have left Petrolia, Bro. Smythe, who is considered one of the best of preachers, and held in high esteem by his own and the other congregations, going to St. Catharines. The S. D., Bro. S. McCann, is however thoroughly posted in the work and able to fill the Warden's chair of Masonry.

Burns Lodge, No. 153, Wyoming: Visited on Nov. 11th when there was a large turnout of brethren. This is the home of R. W. Bro. Dr. A. E. Harvey, the backbone of Burns lodge and accredited by all who know him as one of the most enthusiastic masons and thoroughly imbued with the principles of the craft. Bro. Harvey has been very sick and very near to the portals of another world, indeed so near that doubts were at one time entertained as to his return; but, through the kindness of the G. A. O. T. U. he has been restored to perfect health and strength and his wonted vigor, no doubt that he, and through him others, may be better prepared for the G. L. above. On the evening of my visit the W. M. conferred the third degree in a very creditable manner. V. W. Bro. J. M. Wilson and W. Bro. R. Coglan are very jealous of the good name of Burns. A profitable evening was spent and the brethren were very hospitably entertained at the Commercial. I again visited in March. We found that W. Bro. Pritchard had laid aside the working tools of speculative masonry and retired to the G. L. above. W. Bro. N. McLean acted as J. W. Bro. Dr. Brodie having been called away, W. Bro. Hunter conferred the second degree fairly well, though lacking that vim and earnestness characteristic of the P. M.'s of Burns Lodge, which he may, however, with a little more practice acquire, and succeed in rivalling and excelling his predecessors.

Beaver Lodge, No. 83, Strathroy: Visited on Nov. 12th. I had the pleasure of meeting at this, his home, R. W. Bro.

Whitehead. This is, seemingly, a paradox, for his hair is as black as the raven, and when he is thoroughly known, is acknowledged by his brethren as being pretty longheaded. No matter, R. W. Bro. Whitehead is one of the most highly esteemed of P. G. L. officers. I had also the pleasure of meeting R. W. Bro. Lindsay, of the London district. I happened to visit on the seemingly regular absentee night. The W. M. was absent, having recently removed to Alvinston. The J. W. was absent, having gone to Manitoba to get married. The I. G. was absent, I don't know where, probably at Uncle Tom's Cabin, and the candidate for the third degree was absent. I. P. M., W. M. Taylor, exemplified the first degree fairly well. The Past Masters seemed very enthusiastic, still the brethren do not turn out very well. Were they imbued with the zeal of W. Bro. John Mallon, who acted as candidate for the evening, and who, during a period of twenty-three years, the term of his Masonic life, has only been absent from two meetings, there would be no better lodge than Beaver in the jurisdiction of Grand Lodge. I have been unable to visit a second time, but I know the officers, and there is no better material in any lodge, Bro., the R. W. F. G. Newton being S. W., and Bro. J. F. Howard, mathematical teacher in the High School, is S. D., both of whom have given in their lodge a lecture on a Masonic subject. R. W. Bro. Whitehead and W. Bro. R. F. Richardson, the excellent secretary, inform me that they have now a fine set of officers, who are taking an interest in the work, and have no doubt but that Beaver will raise her head as high as any in the near future.

Forest Lodge, No. 261, Forest : Visited on Dec. 8th. The W. M., Bro. McCallum, M. P. P. being at Toronto, W. Bro. Hendry conferred a first degree and W. Bro. Boddy a second, the officers working well together, indeed so well that I had them exemplify a degree at the lodge of instruction held at Sarnia. I again visited on January 5th, the newly installed and inducted officers in their several chairs. Members present, 31 ; visitors, 7. Among the visiting brethren were W. Bro. H. L. Morphy, one of the leading merchants of Forest and Bro. Hay, who is mayor. Bro. Morphy hasn't visited a lodge for about 20 years and Bro. Hay for about 15. Both expressed themselves as very much pleased that they were present and were highly delighted with the work of the officers, and I have no doubt these brethren will more frequently in the future than in the past enjoy the companionship of their brethren in the lodge room. W. Bro. Flavin conferred the third degree in such a manner as to call forth the encomiums of the visiting and other P. M.'s, among whom were W. Bros.

R. J. Parker and J. C. Morrison. The other officers did their work well. The J. W. conducted us to the Queen's, where Bro. Webster treated us to the best.

Cassia Lodge, No. 116, Thedford: This is my mother lodge which has made many and good masons though I may not include myself among the latter. Being the representative of the M. W. the Grand Master, and therefore supposed to give him a full account of the working of each lodge, still I trust I will be excused in this instance and permitted to give the opinion of the brethren who were with us from sister lodges on the evening of my official visit, Monday, Dec. 20th.

There being no work, the W. M. Bro. Rev. H. Currie, exemplified the first degree and W. Bro. Morrison the third. W. Bros. Caw, McLeod, McLaughlan and Phippen of Doric Lodge, Parkhill; W. Bros. Detwiler, Thoman and George of Arkona Lodge and other brethren on being called upon to criticise the work said nothing but good, which was undoubtedly pleasing to each and every officer. All my predecessors have remembered R. W. Bro. G. W. Holwell, and it would be unkind of me to forget him. Bro. Holwell is always present except when sick or when business calls him away, which is but very seldom.

The brethren were invited by the J. W. to partake of the good things prepared by him at Bro. Holwell's.

Moore Lodge, No. 294, Courtright: Visited on Feb. 3rd, and met a large number of members and visitors. This lodge is now in good hands and doing good work. Bro. Major Stewart, who built and furnished and presented to the Presbytery of Sarnia the church at Courtright, and who, after many years of absence from his lodge, meeting again with his brethren in the lodge-room. There were visiting brethren from Victoria, Leopold and St. Clair lodges. I. P. M. Bro. Wm. Brown conferred the first degree, as did also Bro. Dr. Cowan, W. M., of St. Clair Lodge, and Bro. John Stockdale, the W. M., conferred the third degree; all the work being creditably done. The officers are all anxious for correct work, and I have no doubt my successor will find Moore in a flourishing condition. The J. W. very hospitably entertained the brethren in the lodge room.

Tuscan Lodge, No. 437, Sarnia: Visited on Feb. 4th, when there was a large attendance of members and visitors. The work of the evening was a first and two thirds, in which the W. M. and W. Bro. Dr. Wood took part. This lodge was only constituted at the close of 1896, but it is now one of the best working lodges in the district, and this chiefly through the influence, zeal and earnestness of W. Bro. F. J. Winlow, Man-

ager of the Trader's Bank, who has been its W. M. since the dispensation was granted. A very careful selection of officers was made at last election, and the lodge is in a very flourishing condition, much and fine material being brought in.

The brethren were congratulated on having such an efficient staff of officers. This efficiency may be traced to the fact that W. Bro. Winlow does not allow his officers to practice on their work, but as every W. M. should, calls them together for that special purpose.

To show the interest the Sarnia brethren are taking in Masonry, I may say that a committee was appointed, with W. Bro. Lt. Col. Ellis as chairman, to devise means to better furnish their Masonic hall. Bro. Ellis reported that the committee had received from the brethren by private subscription the sum of \$300, and if the several Masonic bodies would give of their general funds the sum of \$250 the committee would furnish the hall so that it would be second to none in the Province. This they will do.

Alvinston Lodge, No. 323, Alvinston: Visited on Feb. 9th. This lodge has for some time been laboring under a few difficulties, but the brethren thought that by judicious selection of officers these might be overcome, and I find that their opinion was well founded. W. Bro. Dr. Mackinnon is W. M. and W. Bro. Dr. Martyn S. W., a guarantee that the best endeavors to inculcate the principles of the Craft and its influence extended will be exerted. There being no work W. Bro. Sinclair exemplified the first degree and we then opened in the second and third, in which the brethren were rather rusty, not having had any practice for a year or more. We then had a sort of lodge of instruction, in which all the brethren took a part. The officers think they will soon have good work. We were very hospitably entertained at the Grand Central, our host being a member of Alvinston Lodge. I again visited on June 1st, when I expected to see a second and a third degree conferred. The candidate for the third (Bro. Rev. Gerald Willoughby), was, however, absent at conference. Bro. Sinclair conferred the second on a very bright candidate, who, I have no doubt, will rise to eminence in his lodge. I found the officers would now compare favorably with those of most of the other lodges in the district, Bro. Gordon, a young mason, S. D. pro tem., doing his work so well that I took him to be the regular officer. Several applications for initiation are expected and Alvinston Lodge is about to experience a "good time," thus verifying the predictions of the brethren. We spent a social half hour with our brother at the Grand Central. Since writing the above I have received notice that for the 29th

June there are two applications for initiation and one for affiliation.

Alexandra Lodge, No. 158, Oil Springs: Visited on Feb. 10th. The candidate for the third degree (a clergyman) having to leave town on church matters, which the brethren greatly regretted, the I. P. M., Bro. Dr. Chalmers, exemplified the first degree, and the W. M., Bro. Beaton, also exemplified a degree, and notwithstanding the fact that the other officers are young members and but recently inducted, they discharged the duties of their several chairs very well, and with a little practice and a few visits to a sister lodge, will be all right. Bro. W. S. Duggan is one of Alexandra's pillars. We spent a very pleasant and profitable evening, and had a nice social gathering in the ante-room, where the brethren were provided with many good things.

Washington Lodge, No. 260: Visited on Feb. 11. Present, 49. The I. P. M. W. Bro. McQuien exemplified the first degree, and W. M. Bro. M. Munro the second. The W. M. had during the day received a severe blow over the eye—whether from his wife or sweetheart, or either, I am not sure,—however, he got the blow, inflicting an ugly wound and causing a severe headache, which interfered somewhat with the rendering of the work. It gives me much pleasure to say that he and all his officers work well together. I believe there is a good natured rivalry between Washington and Petrolia Lodges. R. W. Bros. Sinclair and Scott and several P. M.'s were present, who one and all complimented the officers who had taken a part during the evening. These were so pleased with themselves, their work and their visiting brethren, that they had a flash photo taken, and requested the J. W. to treat the brethren to the best he had, when that excellent officer, J. Belasco, seated them at tables groaning, moaning, as marriage chronicles would say, with all sorts of good things.

Dufferin Lodge, No. 364, Melbourne: Visited on March 2. Bro. Roach, hotelkeeper, Strathroy, very kindly drove me over and saw me safely back in Strathroy. R. W. Bro. Whitehead would have gone with us had not his professional duties prevented him. I had been led to believe that Dufferin was expiring; it gives me, therefore, much pleasure to report that when we got the circuit completed and in good running order, and a few messages transmitted, the officers set to work, the brethren got together, and on the night of my visit had a second and third degree to confer, and since then they have had, I think, three initiations, and more in prospect. So much for dying Dufferin. What was the cause of the lodge going back so as to lead one to suppose that it was on "its last

legs"? Well there were several: Neglect of the hour of meeting; brethren would loiter around some place, go to the lodge room at a late hour, have a talk, a smoke, go home; gave up visiting and practice, neglected collecting dues, and so were unable to settle with the Grand Secretary, to whom they were indebted over \$90.00, and so forth and so forth, as R. W. Bro. Harvey would say. Things have changed. The officers are interested, the other brethren are getting inoculated, new material is coming in, and a bright future is in store, and I have no doubt Bro. Cooper will be able to tell me when Dufferin Lodge is next visited that the D. D. G. M. will have to admit that she is one of the best in the district. We spent a very pleasant time around the social board.

St. Clair Lodge, No. 425, Sombra: Visited on March the 8th. The work for the evening was a first and second degree. The W. M., Bro. Dr. Cowan, conferred the first, but unfortunately, just at the conclusion of the degree, was called away. The I. P. M., W. Bro. Roebuck, did not expect to have to take any part in the work of the evening, and consequently had made no preparation; yet when called on conferred the degree in a very able manner. The W. M. and all the brethren are interested, and are doing good work. Bro. Stockdale, W. M., and Bros. Dr. Crawford, Neal and Stewart, of Moore Lodge, drove over and expressed themselves as well paid for the trip, for the brethren of St. Clair treated them exceedingly well in the ante-room, indeed so well that Bro. Dr. Crawford has removed from Courtright and taken up his residence in Sombra

Leopold Lodge, No. 397, Brigden: Visited on March the 9th, just after a heavy rain, and saw some of the celebrated roads of that part of Lambton. There was a good turn out of the brethren notwithstanding the unfavorable circumstances. W. Bro. Wm. Brown, of Moore Lodge, drove over from Mooretown. This is the home of R. W. Bro. F. J. Ward, who took us in hand and made us also feel at home. He is Secretary, and looks carefully after the best interests of the lodge. The work of the evening was a first and second. The W. M. not being prepared, W. Bro. Leacock and Dan Fisher conferred the degrees creditably. The Wardens being rather late in getting up, P. M.'s filled the chairs *pro tem.*, so, needless to say, that part of the work was well done. P. M.'s Drs. F. R. Seagur and A. J. Fisher took part. Indeed all the P. M.'s take an interest in the work, and are regular attendants, so that the Master, Wardens and floor officers have a chance to make themselves perfect in the work, and should not be slow to take advantage of it. There have been five initiations this year,

and the prospects for more are good. The J. W. invited us all to the hotel, where a very pleasant and profitable time for the inner man was spent.

Ionic Lodge, No. 328, Napier : Accompanied by W. Bro. Alex. Saunders, W. M. of Havelock Lodge, I visited on March 4th, when for Ionic Lodge we had a very good turn out. Bro. Thompson, aged 87 years, was present the whole evening and partook of supper at the hotel at the end of the meeting. This should be an object lesson to the younger members. This is the home of R. W. Bro. Calvert, M. P., who was at Ottawa on the evening of my visit. I don't know exactly what to say about Ionic. The financial standing is good. The date of last G. L. return was December, 1896, but the treasurer, R. W. Bro. Calvert, will pay up all Grand Lodge dues on or about June 24th. There have been two or three meetings held during each year for the last few years, and the secretary, W. Bro. W. H. Sutherland has removed from Napier to Toronto. In May four members got together, the W. M. Bro. W. I. Toohill, W. Bro. Dunlop, the Tyler and Secretary. In June two mem-got together, the W. M. and W. Bro. Dunlop, both of whom are, notwithstanding such unfavorable circumstances, very well up in the work and both these brethren tell me that if a quorum could be got together a few times they believe that the lodge would get a fresh lease of life. I would therefore recommend that the Most Worshipful the Grand Master appoint a committee to meet the brethren of Ionic Lodge, to see if anything can be done. They would be treated, as we were, with the greatest of kindness by the brethren.

Havelock Lodge, No. 238, Watford : Accompanied by W. Bro. J. D. Morrison, I visited on March 15th. I should have liked very much to have visited on the night of installation, but it was impossible for me to go, circumstances over which I had no control barring the way. The candidate for the third degree having removed to Sarnia, did not get over, so the W. M. Bro. Alex. Saunders exemplified the degree. Bro. Saunders has several times, in a faultless manner, exemplified a degree at a Lodge of Instruction, and is considered one of the most skilled and correct workers in the district, so that it would be useless for me to say anything about the work of the evening than to add that Bro. Saunders is supported by good officers. After closing the brethren spent the remainder of the evening at Bro. Menhennick's, who catered to their wants.

St. Johns, No. 81, Mt. Brydges : I intended to visit on Feb. 1st, when there was a third on hand, but got snow bound, so had to defer my visit until April 4th, when there was no regular work. I had the pleasure of meeting W. Bro. Dr. M. Rice,

an old friend who is reputed a good worker, and who this evening exemplified a degree well, and who I have no doubt will become better known to the brethren of sister lodges. The W. M. Bro. Archie Campbell—who has a turn for detective work, occasionally catching a granary thief on his way home from lodge—exemplified a degree very well. W. Bro. Bretts, who has been several times in the master's chair, took part. W. Bro. T. C. West is, I am told, a good worker, and if he did his work as well in the east as he does at the secretary's desk, he is all right. The officers work very well, but they do not open up until late, which dampens the ardor of those living at a distance.

And now that I am about to lay aside the mantle of office and hand over the regalia to a more expert and more worthy representative of the M. W. the Grand Master, I tender my sincere thanks to the Grand Secretary for his kindness in answering any and all questions submitted to him ; to the delegates who so kindly conferred on me the highest honor in the gift of the district, and to the brethren for the warm and cordial receptions and the many kind expressions extended to me.

Faternally submitted,

GEO. SUTHERLAND, D. D. G. M.,
St Clair District, No. 2.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & M. A. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Tablo Showing the work done in St. Clair District, No. 2, from June 24th, 1897, to June 24th, 1898.

| Number of Lodge. | NAME OF LODGE. | LOCATION. | Memb-ership. | | Degrees's conf rd. | | Restorations. | Restorations, N. P. D. | Suspensions, other causes. | Deceased. | Meet-ings held. | | | Average attendance of members. | Amount paid for relief. | No. of members 12 months in arrears. | Total or all Arrearages. | Date of last G. L. Return. | Financial Standing. | Prospects of Lodge. | Can W. M. work all degrees. | Insurance. | |
|------------------|----------------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------|---------------|------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------|--------------|
| | | | Total No. of all Mem. | Increase during year. | E. A. | F. C. | | | | | M. M. | Affiliations. | Restorations. | | | | | | | | | | Suspensions. | Regular. | Emergent. | Total. |
| 56 | Victoria | Sarnia | 83 | 14 | 15 | 9 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 5 | 16 | 21 | 22 | 90 | 00 | June, 98 | Good. | Very good | Yes | Yes |
| 81 | St. John's | Mt. Brydges | 51 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 1 | 14 | 15 | 11 | 23 | 00 | June, 98 | Good. | Fair. | Yes | Yes |
| 83 | Beaver | Strathroy | 71 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 11 | 23 | 00 | Dec., 97 | Good. | Fair. | Yes | Yes |
| 116 | Cassie | Thedford | 34 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 10 | 14 | 75 | June, 98 | Good. | Fair. | Yes | 300 00 |
| 153 | Burus | Wyoming | 65 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 9 | 11 | 7 | 21 | 23 | 63 | 00 | June, 98 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 1200 00 |
| 158 | Alexandra | Oil Springs | 49 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 13 | 11 | 10 | 13 | 51 | 75 | Dec., 97 | Good. | Fair. | Yes | 1000 00 |
| 194 | Petrolia | Petrolia | 89 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 23 | 11 | 34 | 00 | June, 98 | Good. | Fair. | Yes | 250 00 |
| 238 | Havelock | Wainford | 70 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 3 | 17 | 19 | 31 | 1 | 50 | Dec., 97 | Fair. | Good. | Yes | 400 00 |
| 260 | Washington | Petrolia | 63 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 14 | 14 | 14 | 35 | 16 | 13 | 50 | June, 98 | Fair. | Good. | Yes | 400 00 |
| 263 | Forest | Wares | 37 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 15 | 16 | 25 | 75 | June, 98 | Fair. | Fairly gd | Yes | 250 00 |
| 294 | Moore | Courtright | 43 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 29 | 2 | 7 | 50 | June, 98 | Fair. | Fairly gd | Yes | 200 00 |
| 307 | Arkona | Arkona | 46 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 12 | 3 | 15 | 20 | 12 | 75 | 00 | June, 98 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 200 00 |
| 323 | Alvinston | Alvinston | 28 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 11 | 5 | 5 | 00 | June, 98 | Good. | Poor. | Yes | 200 00 |
| 328 | Ionic | Napier | 28 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 9 | 3 | 17 | 50 | Dec., 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | Yes |
| 364 | Dufferin | Melbourne | 48 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 14 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 10 | 17 | 50 | June, 98 | Good. | Good. | Yes | Yes |
| 392 | Huron | Chambachie | 46 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 10 | 4 | 14 | 12 | 17 | 00 | Dec., 97 | Good. | Good. | No | 185 00 | |
| 397 | Leopold | Brigden | 68 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 15 | 10 | 50 | 00 | June, 98 | Good. | Fair. | Yes | 200 00 |
| 419 | Bismarek | Pl. Edward | 37 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 9 | 10 | 18 | 8 | 50 | 00 | June, 98 | Fair. | Fair. | Yes | 300 00 |
| 425 | St. Clair | Sombra | 41 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 10 | 10 | 13 | 8 | 25 | 00 | Dec., 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | Yes |
| 437 | Tuscan | Sarnia | 44 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 10 | 2 | 12 | 13 | 6 | 00 | Dec., 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | Yes |

LONDON DISTRICT, NO. 3.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

It is with pleasure that in laying down the insignia of office, I submit herewith an account of my stewardship for the past year in filling the most honorable position of District Deputy Grand Master, for which I received the unanimous vote of the district. I entered upon the duties of that high position with the full determination to spare no pains or trouble in trying to fulfill its duties, so that I might be of some use and benefit to the Craft in this district. I have throughout the year done as far as my humble abilities would permit with that end in view, and a conscientious desire to do my duty. If I have failed in any respect it has not been for want of effort on my part. I find, and am pleased to report, that Masonry in this district is fairly progressive, and that the requirements of our order are being fairly well carried out; harmony also prevails to a great degree. A large measure of this may be justly attributed to the energy and zeal of my predecessors in office who have each left some trace of their good work in the past. There are two questions however that I have been led to speak upon pretty severely: (First), the annoying questions of nonpayment of dues, a matter that in my opinion is doing masonry a great deal of harm. I have endeavored to impress upon W. M.'s and officers the need of their promptly enforcing the constitution and by-laws. The second evil I complain of is the irregularity of attendance of members, and I consider that this is in a great measure the fault of the W. M.'s and officers for their tardiness in getting to work sharp on the hour required by their by-laws.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

Of the twenty-six lodges in the district, it affords me great pleasure to be able to say that I have visited each one at least once, and several of them twice. Inasmuch as I am not my own master and cannot always direct my actions, I have on three or four occasions disappointed lodges, and I trust the

lodges so disappointed for the time, and which I afterwards had the felicity of visiting, will kindly forgive me in that respect.

DISPENSATIONS.

I granted dispensations to Merrill Lodge, St. David's Lodge and Henderson Lodge, to attend Divine Service.

DEPARTED BRETHREN.

During the year there have been lost to us by the hand of the grim destroyer a large number, many of whom were unknown to me except by name. Conspicuous among those who have recently died were Most Wor. Bro. D. Spry, P. G. M., R. W. Bro. G. C. Davis, P. G., J. W. Wor. Bros. Abbot, Burke, Nash and Bros. Montgomery and O'Brien, and many others whose names I might mention had I time. To the families and friends bereaved we offer our sincere sympathy.

DEDICATIONS AND CONSECRATIONS.

Probably the most important event of the year, so far as this district is concerned, was the consecration and dedication of the new Masonic hall at Lawrence Station on October 29th, 1897. By direction of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master a special communication of Grand Lodge was held, and the new Masonic hall was dedicated in a most impressive manner. Right Wor. Bros. Dr. Cascaden and McKay, Past D. D. G. M.'s, and Very Wor. Bros. John Callard, Peter Toll, Oliver Bridle and Jno. R. Hammond, and many others, took part in the beautiful ceremony. The removal of Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 171, from Iona to Lawrence Station will, I am sure, cause their numbers to be greatly augmented. A full report however will be found elsewhere.

EXPENSES.

Each lodge in the district contributed freely and voluntarily towards my expenses with the exception of one. Still I cannot help but think that it would be better if Grand Lodge made a levy of the amount which each subordinate lodge should contribute. In this way the strong would be compelled to help the weak.

INSTALLATION.

Assisted by Rt. Wor. Bros. Brodrick, Munson, Very Wor. Bros. Bridle, Hammond, Toll, Wor. Bros. Morris, Luscombe, A. A. Campbell, Galpin and Blackwell and others, I installed the officers of St. John's, 20; St. John's, 209a; St. George's,

42 ; Kilwinning, 64 ; The Tuscan, 196 ; King Solomon, 378 ; and Union, 380, on the Festival of St. John the Evangelist. I thank the brethren most sincerely for their great kindness and assistance on this occasion.

Malahide Lodge, No. 140, Aylmer : Accompanied by V. W. Bro. Callard, I visited on May 4th, 1898. I was pleased to find all the officers in their places except the Senior Deacon, who was unavoidably absent. This is decidedly one of the best lodges in the London District, nicely situated, comfortably circumstanced in every way, so far as a visitor could judge. I having known the members thereof for many years or rather a large portion of them, I know its membership to be composed of the very best men in the community. The work of the evening was in the second degree. Three candidates were passed in a highly commendable manner. One of the most notable circumstances of the evening in connection with the work was the effective rendering of the Senior Wardens' lecture by Bro. Cascaden. I found everything in connection with the lodge in a prosperous condition, indeed of the eighty-eight members only three were over two years in arrears. This is a record well worthy of emulation. I was pleased to find such a large number of P. Masters in attendance, all apparently taking a keen interest in the affairs of the lodge. R. W. Bro. Rutherford, P. D. D. G. M., is a member of this lodge. His sterling worth is duly appreciated by its members, as well as the whole craft throughout the district. The lodge room is neat and inviting and well furnished. The hospitality of the brethren knows no bounds, not being satisfied with the royal reception tendered us during the evening, a deputation waited upon us the following morning, and we were driven for several hours through the surrounding country. This kindness was highly appreciated, indeed my visit to old Malahide will ever remain a green spot in my memory. The prospects are very bright.

Delaware Valley, No. 358, Delaware : Visited officially Mar. 4th, 1898, and at different times during the year I have been present at the regular meetings of this lodge. Wor. Bro. Stilson is an excellent officer, and he is ably supported by his Wardens ; but I regret to say that the subordinate officers are not as punctual and enthusiastic as I would like to see. It is most unfortunate that the brethren will accept an office and then make no sacrifice whatever to be present at the meetings. The night of my official visit Wor. Bro. Grant, of Union Lodge, No. 380, and his officers, exemplified the third degree in a very efficient and impressive manner. About fifty were in attendance, including many distinguished and eminent Masons. The

building is owned by the lodge, and insured, and dues are fairly well paid up. This lodge has suffered a great loss during the year by the death of Bro. Montgomery. His record as a Mason should be the envy of all. He was a member of the craft for forty-three years, and during that time had not missed more than six meetings. His pleasant smile, kind words and noble example will never be forgotten, and his services to the craft will long be remembered, and his loss will be deeply deplored, and that he was highly thought of was evidenced by the large number who attended his obsequies. This being my mother lodge I will say nothing more, but trust my predecessor's expectations will be realized.

St. John's Lodge, No. 20, London: I visited this lodge on the 8th of Feb., 1898, and found an excellent turnout of the brethren. This is not only the oldest lodge in the district but is also one of the largest, having about 170 members. It is in the best financial standing of any lodge in the district, having a large surplus on hand. In the amount paid for relief it certainly leads the van. On the occasion of my visit one candidate was initiated. Although this is one of the two lodges having permission to work under a different ritual than the rest, I can hardly consider myself a competent judge of the work done, but from the easy and regular manner in which the W. M. and his officers discharge their duties I must conclude that the work was fairly well performed. Very Wor. Bro. Dawson has for nearly thirty years occupied the position of secretary. He is an excellent accountant, and keeps the books well. This lodge owes very much of its prosperity to the immediate P. M., Wor. Bro. Findlay, whose zeal for Freemasonry knows no bounds. I had the pleasure of presenting the I. M. P. M. with a handsome jewel, in recognition of his services. A pleasant hour was spent around the festive board and good fellowship enjoyed. Here, and I might say everywhere I went, your humble representative was most loyally and enthusiastically received.

Merrill Lodge, No. 344, Dorchester: I visited this lodge Nov. 4, 1897, being accompanied my P. M. Dundas, of King Solomon's Lodge, Thamesford. There was a large attendance of members and visitors from all the adjoining lodges. The Wor. Master Bro. McNiven and his officers conferred the first degree upon a candidate in the most impressive and correct manner. The large turn out of P. M.'s shows the keen interest taken in the work. The financial standing is good, owing largely to the Secretary's efforts. This lodge has been in a somewhat dormant state for some time, but a Masonic revival has set in and the prospects are most encouraging. This

is an up-to-date lodge. A banquet followed, and the fourth degree was done ample justice to.

Mount Olivet Lodge, No. 300, Thorndale: Accompanied by V. W. Bro. Bridle, Wor. Bros. Morris, Galpin and Cox of London, I visited this lodge Nov. 9th, 1897, at its regular meeting. The night being cold and the roads bad was no doubt the cause of such a small attendance and the reason for so many of the officers of the lodge being absent. There being no degree work I asked the W. M. Bro. Salmon to open and close in the three degrees. The work was fairly well done. This lodge has excellent material, but unfortunately have had no opportunity to develop it, which naturally drives any officer into a state of indifference. The secretary's books are well kept and dues well paid up, in fact the financial standing is the very best, owning the hall and free from debt with a good insurance. The general outlook is very satisfactory.

Kilwinning Lodge, No. 64, London: Visited Nov. 18th, 1897. There was a large turnout of members, their number being greatly augmented by the visitors, including R. Wor. Bros. Hungerford, Munson, Greer, and Very Wor. Bros. Bridle and Toll. I was pleased to find all the officers in their places. The second degree was exemplified by Wor. Bro. Hodgins and his officers in a very satisfactory manner. The floor work was well done, also the lecture of the Senior Warden was worthy of praise. A very large turnout of P. M.'s convinced me that the Wor. Master had the hearty co-operation of all. The secretary's books are models of neatness. The material brought into the lodge is good. I consider this a prosperous lodge, and the prospects very bright. I also had the pleasure of visiting this lodge on the 21st October. All the chairs were filled by the P. M.'s of the lodge, and the third degree was exemplified almost beyond criticism. A very large and representative gathering of distinguished Masons were present, including R. Wor. Bro. Tait, of Toronto. A very pleasant and profitable evening was spent, although a gloom was cast over the proceedings by the sudden and unexpected announcement of the death of Rt. Wor. Bro. Geo. C. Davis.

Again on the 16th of June I had the pleasure of visiting Kilwinning, No. 64, the occasion being a fraternal visit from the brethren of King Solomon, P. M. Bro. Galpin in the east and all the other officers in their respective chairs. The exemplification of the third degree was the work of the evening. I congratulated the W. M. upon the rendition of the work, in fact I never heard the third degree given with better effect in my life, and the work indeed was most sublime. The candidate was very attentive to every word uttered by the master

and his ready responses were commendable. Both lodges are to be congratulated upon the great success of this fraternal gathering and I only hope that it will be an incentive for more of a like character. A pleasant social hour was spent in the banquet room.

St. George's Lodge, No. 42, London: I visited this lodge on Dec. 1st, 1897, and received a hearty welcome from W. M. Bro. Hayman and members. There was a good attendance of members and visitors, including R. W. Bro. Munson, P. D. D. G. M., and Very Wor. Bro. Callard. The election of officers took place for the ensuing year, and the brethren seemed unanimous in their choice of officers. The prosperity of this lodge is principally due to the harmony that is so decidedly apparent, and also to the keen interest displayed by the large number of P. M.'s present. The Secretary and Treasurer have held office for eighteen and twenty-three years respectively, and the small number in arrears speaks volumes for their zeal and assiduity. Three candidates were initiated during the evening. The work was well done, and I had cause to congratulate the W. M. upon it. Although this lodge cannot boast of a large membership it possesses some of the best material in No. 3 District, and I have no doubt of its future.

The Tuscan, No. 195, London: Visited Dec. 6th, 1897. I was received by the members and visiting brethren in the most cordial manner. The officers were all in their respective chairs. Among the prominent visitors present were Right Wor. Bro. Dewar and Wor. Bro. Fitzgerald. This was the annual election of officers. An apparent feeling of dissatisfaction was manifest to the observer, however I have every reason to believe that the officers elected will endeavor to do their duties, and I trust will receive the hearty support of all the members. As there was no work on I am not in a position to speak as to the general proficiency of the officers, but I have no fear as to the result as long as Rt. Wor. Bro. Hungerford, Broderick, Clark and Wor. Bro. McWhinney remain active members of the lodge, indeed needless for me to say that R. W. Bro. Hungerford fills the office of secretary second to none. The prospects of this lodge are fair.

Moffat Lodge, No. 399, Harrietsville: I visited this lodge April 20th, 1898, at an emergency meeting called for the purpose. I drove a distance of twenty-seven miles to this lodge. The roads being almost impassable, the night dark, and the rain pouring down in torrents, combined to make an experience I shall never forget. I was accompanied, however, from Belmont by Rt. Wor. Bro. Boyd, Wor. Bro. Potts, Bros. Fonger, Birch and Christie. The Wor. Master of King Solomon

Lodge, Thamesford and six members were also visitors. The Wor. Master, P. M. Bro. Campbell and three officers were the full number of members in attendance. The Secretary, Bro. Jelly, was taken very ill during the day, which prevented him being present. As this is not only the smallest lodge in the district but in the Province as well, and owing to the inclement state of the weather, I could easily understand the reason for the small attendance. P. M. Bro. Campbell and the other members did everything in their power to make the evening pleasant and agreeable. The fourth degree was a decided success. The Grand Lodge dues are well paid up. The prospects are fair.

Middlesex Lodge, No. 379, Bryanston : I visited this lodge on Dec. 8th, 1897, accompanied by Wor. Bros. Galpin, Grant, McNeil and Morris, from London. A good number of visitors were present from adjoining lodges. The attendance of members was not as large as I wished to see. I was, however, received in the most enthusiastic manner by those present. The annual election of officers took place for the ensuing year, and passed off very amicably. The best of feeling seems to exist. The candidate not being present I requested the W. M. to open and close in the different degrees, which was fairly well done. The lodge is improving, and if the members would only exert themselves a little more, there is no reason why this lodge should not be one of the best in the district, as there is plenty of good material if only utilized. The lodge room is neat and inviting. The greatest evil existing seems to be carelessness in collecting dues, which ruin any lodge. I also recommended a revision of the by-laws at once ; I find the last revision was in 1880 Bro. Smibert is a good secretary as far as keeping the books are concerned, but the amount of arrearages are far too much. The prospects of the lodge are improving.

St. Thomas Lodge, No. 44, St. Thomas : To this lodge I paid my first official visit, accompanied by Very Wor. Bro. J. R. Hammond ; we were royally received by the W. M. and members. There was a large number of visitors present. My visit to this old lodge was a pleasure I shall never forget. I found all the officers present. The W. M. is a very exact worker and the support he receives from the wardens is most praiseworthy. The first degree was exemplified in a very intelligent manner and the rendering of the lecture by Bro. Rowe was excellent. That venerable old mason, Rt. Wor. Bro. Slater, is the secretary of the lodge, and to his untiring energy is to be attributed largely the success of the lodge and its sound financial standing. The lodge room is one of the finest

and most attractive in the district, and as harmony prevails no finer place can be found for brethren to dwell together in unity. My experience of old forty-four is but a repetition of former D. D. G. M's. The inner man is not neglected in this hospitable lodge and all seemed to enjoy an hour at the banquet table as fully as in the lodge room. Prospects are very bright.

Belmont Lodge, No. 190, Belmont : This is one of our best rural lodges, nicely situated, and comfortably circumstanced in every way in so far as a visitor could judge. I know its membership to be composed of the very best men in the community. I had the pleasure of visiting this lodge on Jan. 7th, 1898, accompanied by Bro. Bradt. The exemplification of the first and third degree proved to my satisfaction beyond a doubt that in doing the work the officers, from the Master down, were thoroughly conversant therewith, and with all its requirements. This being the W. M.'s first attempt to confer the sublime degree of a Master Mason, and his impressive rendition of the same, was the most convincing evidence that the lodge had made no mistake in placing the present incumbent in the East. W. M. Bro. Meldrum is a correct ritualist and a good executive officer. I found the books most admirably kept by one of the most highly respected and oldest Masons in the lodge, Rt. Wor. Bro. Boyd, Past D. D. G. M. The lodge is in a good financial condition, as they own their hall and have sufficient funds on hand to pay off the debt, besides the building and furniture are kept well insured. Their members are few, but the greatest harmony appears to exist in every member's heart. The greatest difficulty in this as well as many other lodges is the amount of arrearages which I trust will soon be wiped out. This lodge, it appears, holds an annual dinner, and I fortunately happened on that night. The spread was a magnificent one, and I think the fourth degree would be hard to beat. Prospects fair.

Henderson Lodge, No. 388, Ilderton : I visited this lodge January 31st, 1898, accompanied by Wor. Bro. Stilson, of Delaware Valley Lodge, and also Bro. Bradt. There were only six members present and a few visitors. The W. M. not being present, Wor. Bro. Stilson, of my mother lodge, kindly consented to fill the chair. The cause of such a poor attendance was on account of the blinding snow storm that continued for several hours, entirely blocking the roads, and impeding traffic. According to previous reports this lodge is improving. The Secretary, Bro. Ironsides, is a good officer, and his books show a decided improvement since he took charge. There are however a number of members who should be induced to pay up their dues, or be at once suspended. Although the

brethren seem to be a little down hearted, I spoke encouragingly, and am convinced that it is but the dark day before the dawn. I trust that my successor will give this lodge careful attention. A pleasant social hour was spent at the Stilson House, where we were hospitably entertained. Prospects fair.

Corinthian Lodge, No. 330, London East : Was visited by me on Feb'y. 1st, 1898, accompanied by Very Wor. Bro. Bridle. Although my visit had not been previously announced was pleased to find a large number of brethren in attendance which indicates most clearly that the members are in earnest. I was heartily welcomed to the lodge by the Wor. Master, Bro. Davis. All the officers were found in their respective chairs with the exception of the Senior Steward. The work done was the third degree and it was all that could be desired. The floor work and general movements of the officers were done in military style and beyond criticism. I have frequently referred to the work of this lodge during the year among the rural lodges. It is indeed gratifying to notice the active interest the Past Masters take in the welfare of the lodge. This is as it should be and is a keen incentive to greater diligence on the part of the younger brethren. I had the unexpected pleasure of presenting the immediate Past Master, Wor. Bro. Cooper with a handsome Past Master's jewel. The gift was duly merited and highly appreciated. The secretary of the lodge, Wor. Bro. Simpson, is a careful and zealous official and reflects the greatest credit upon himself and the lodge for the way he keeps the books. I am sorry to state that during my visit I found that internal troubles were existing somewhere in the lodge, and that these unhappy differences have been depleting the treasury because of the non-accession of new blood. I trust, however, that the difficulty will be effectually and internally buried and that the barrier will be forever removed and an era of prosperity again prevail. Brethren remember your obligation, be true to each other.

Doric Lodge, No. 289, Lobo Village : My visit to this lodge February 3rd, 1898, afforded me supreme pleasure. I was accompanied by Very Wor. Bros. Bridle and Hammond, and Wor. Bro. Grant. The W. M. and his officers accorded us a hearty welcome. Wor. Bro. Tuckey initiated two candidates in a highly commendable manner, and received strong support from the officers of the lodge. The books are well kept by P. M. Bro. Graham, M. D., and no better treasurer is to be found in the whole of my jurisdiction than P. M. Bro. McGugan. There need be no fear for Doric's future as long as the members thereof are as happy in their selection of its officers as it has been this year. The financial standing of the lodge is

good, they own their own hall, and it is paid for, and carry a good insurance. I also, in company with P. M. Wor. Bro. Lockwood, visited this lodge on March 31st, 1898. There was a good attendance of members and visitors. One candidate was passed and another raised by the W. M. Wor. Bro. Tuckey. I listened in admiration to the work. The W. M. is a very correct ritualist, and I congratulated him very highly upon his advancement. I had the pleasure of initiating this Bro. in Doric Lodge less than three years ago. This is the only opportunity I have had during my official year of seeing three degrees exemplified by the W. M. within a few months after his election to the chair; his record is worthy of imitation. Prospects very bright.

Warren Lodge, No 120, Fingal: I visited this lodge on April 5th, 1898. I was met at Shedden by the genial W. M. Bro. Guest, who kindly escorted me to his beautiful home, and after partaking of his hospitality drove me over to Fingal, a distance of three miles. I was cordially received by the W. M. and thirty one members, besides a goodly number of visitors from St. Thomas and other points, the most prominent being Very Wor. Bro. Dubber. There being no degree work on hand I asked the W. M. to open and close in the different degrees. This was done to my entire satisfaction. The secretary's books are neatly kept and the finances well cared for. This lodge is composed of well developed stalwarts in masonry; good harmony and fellowship were apparent to the observer. The work of the fourth degree on this occasion was heartily enjoyed by all and it was in the early dawn of the morning before the brethren could bear to separate and say good-night. As entertainers, Warren Lodge is second to none.

St. Mark's Lodge, No. 94, Port Stanley: Visited this lodge March 8th. 1898. There was a very small attendance, about twelve in all. There being no work the W. M. opened and closed in the several degrees. The work was very imperfectly done. This lodge has not had a candidate for a long time, the natural consequence is that all the officers were pretty rusty. I am glad however to report that the financial standing is improving very much. I believe the cloud that has been hanging over this lodge is gradually lifting. A candidate was proposed for membership the night of my official visit. The secretary seems to be an efficient officer, but I found too many members in arrears, which is ruinous to any lodge. I spoke encouragingly to the brethren and urged upon them the necessity of keeping the dues well collected. I hope my successor will find a marked improvement in this respect. I was met at the station by Wor. Bro. Dr. Mothersell, and escorted to his

home and kindly entertained by himself and good lady during my stay in Port Stanley.

Nilestown Lodge, No. 345, Nilestown: Visited Dec. 7th, 1897, and found a large number and all the officers in their places except the Junior Deacon and the Senior Warden. One candidate was initiated and the work was very well done. One application was received, so the lodge seems to have work ahead. There was an excellent attendance of members and visitors from London and the adjoining lodges. Among the veteran members of the lodge we noticed P. M.'s James and Odell and McDougall. The secretary, Bro. John McDougall, keeps his books in good shape and the dues are well paid up. A little misunderstanding occurred between this lodge and one of its former members: an appeal was made to the Grand Master. Under his recommendation I held an investigation assisted by Rt. Wor. Bro. Munson. I submitted the evidence to the Most Wor. the Grand Master, and after receiving his ruling the brethren were served with a copy, and as I have not heard anything in reference to the matter since, I presume the matter was generally agreeable to both parties. I consider this a prosperous lodge and the prospects very bright. After close of the lodge a pleasant and profitable hour was spent around the festive board.

St. Paul's Lodge, No. 107, Lambeth: I met the brethren of this lodge on April 6th, 1898, and found a good attendance. The officers were all in their respective places except the Junior Deacon. A good number of Past Masters attend the lodge regularly, and take a deep interest in the work. One candidate was passed to the second degree, and the work was very well done. This lodge has a large membership and there is a steady growth of new members. The financial standing is good, dues well paid up. Average attendance very good. I visited this lodge on two other occasions during the year, and was warmly received by the brethren. Prospects good.

Cameron Lodge, No. 232, Dutton: My fourth official visit for the week was paid to Cameron Lodge on the 2nd February, 1898, and it was only a repetition of what I met with previously owing to the disposition of the brethren in No. 3 District to kill the D. D. G. M. with kindness. I found it necessary wherever possible to carry a strong body guard; on this occasion Very Wor. Bro. Hammond and Wor. Bro. Morris acted in that capacity, and I am consequently enabled to report upon the affairs of the lodge. The night being cold and disagreeable no doubt prevented some from being present, however the attendance was very good. Rt. Wor. Bro. Cascaden, P. D. D. G. M., was among the visiting brethren. There being

no work the W. M. opened and closed in the several degrees. The Master and Wardens took their parts well, but the subordinate officers were only fair. It is a pity that brethren who take office cannot make sacrifices in order to be in attendance at all the meetings. I have no doubt however that under the able management of Wor. Bro. Balkwell greater efficiency will be attained in the work. On looking over the books it was deplorable to find so many members in arrears; I recommended the W. M. and Secretary to look well after this branch of work in the future. There is a strong desire on the part of the members to make this lodge one of the best in the district, and I believe their most sanguine expectations will be realized if the spirit of harmony which is apparent continues. After close of the lodge a sumptuous banquet was prepared by the brethren at the McIntyre House, and heartily enjoyed by all.

St. David's Lodge, No. 302, St. Thomas: I visited this lodge on the 17th day of Feb'y, 1898, accompanied by Bro. R. McIntyre as my official body guard and received a hearty welcome from the W. M. and members. About fifty were present; among the number were Rt. Wor. Bros. McKay and Slater, P. D. D. G. M.'s and Very Wor. Bros. Dubber and Brandshaw, and P. M.'s Bros. Robertson and Rainey of St. Paul's, Lambeth. The work of the evening was the second and third degrees and the rendition was almost perfect in every respect. The W. M. is well supported by his predecessor in office which is undoubtedly the secret of success. The secretary, Bro. Lewis, takes great pride in the books, which are kept in the best form; dues are fairly well paid up. I have no fear that the future will have bright promises fulfilled. The lodge room is neat and inviting, all that could be desired for masonic purposes and well insured. A sumptuous spread was provided in the banqueting room which gave evidence conclusive that hospitality was added to the cardinal virtues of the brethren. May success continue to the end.

King Solomon Lodge, No. 394, Thamesford: Visited this lodge November 3rd, 1897, accompanied by Very Wor. Bro. Hammond, G. St., and Bros. McNee, Buchner and Hall, of London. I was accorded a hearty welcome by W. Bro. Clubb and members. I had an opportunity of witnessing the work in the second degree by the W. M. and his officers, and this being his first work I was pleased to be able to compliment him upon the very correct and impressive manner in which the work was done. The secretary's books are a credit to him and the lodge is very fortunate in being able to retain his services. The average attendance I found to be about twenty. The dues are very well paid up. They have a very nice lodge

room and well furnished and carry a good insurance on the building and contents. There was a large number of P. M.'s in attendance which speaks well for the lodge. The prospects are good. On the 9th Nov. I again had the pleasure of meeting with the brethren at their "At Home" and can bear testimony to their having sustained their well known reputation for entertaining their friends with the sweetest of music and the most entrancing programme for those who are wont to indulge in the dance. As entertainers Thamesford Lodge is second to none in the district.

King Solomon Lodge, No. 378, London: Visited May 18th, being the regular meeting the attendance was good, and I was glad to learn so far as this lodge is concerned that the attendance on this occasion was not unexceptional. The W. M. and all his officers were in their respective places, which is indeed worthy of comment. W. M. Bro. Webber and his officers initiated a candidate in a faultless manner to the minutest detail. There were present a large number of P. M.'s. Very Wor. Bro. Clark, from the Tuscan; Wor. Bro. Blackwell, from St. John's, 20; Wor. Bros. Paul, Hodgins and Dambra, from Kilwinning, 64; Wor. Bro. Morris, of Union, 380, and that old and respected veteran of Masonry in London, R. W. Bro. Simpson, P. D. D. G. M., and a large number of P. M.'s of this lodge, including Wor. Bros. Galpin, Essery, Element and Hobbs. The secretary's books are well kept, and dues fairly well paid up. I had the honor of presenting a Past Master's Jewel to Wor. Bro. Hobbs on this occasion. This lodge is indeed one of the most prosperous in the district, and the utmost harmony prevails among its members. At the refreshment board an unusually happy time was spent, the good fellowship existing between the members and the visitors being very marked indeed.

St. John's, No. 209a, London: On the 20th of May I officially visited this lodge, and was heartily welcomed by the W. M. Wor. Bro. Dr. Balfour and his officers. A large number of brethren were in attendance, including Rt. Bro. J. S. Dewar and Very Wor. Bro. O. J. Bridle and Wor. Bros. Essery and Maclaren. The second degree was conferred on Bros. O'Brien and Shoebottom by the W. M. and officers in a truly perfect manner. I was pleased to see the attention given to the preparation of candidates from whom the O. B. is required, and also the prompt way the candidates responded to all the questions, reflecting great credit on their instructor. The secretary, P. M. Bro. Rowat, is so well known as an enthusiastic Mason that comment on his work is hardly necessary. It goes without saying that the books are well kept. I

am sorry to report that this lodge has not been as prosperous for the past year or two as formerly, and some bad feeling exists on account of candidates being kept out. There may be good reasons for this, and therefore it would not be wise for me to say anything in the matter, but will leave it for the better judgment of those who profess to know. I sincerely trust it is from pure Masonic principles that the black ball has been used so freely. However, I believe the cloud will soon vanish, and that its future will be as brilliant as very much of its past has been. After the close of the lodge a very pleasant time was spent in the banquet room, and it was with a feeling of sadness that I left the company of my brethren on this occasion, knowing that it was the last of my official visits. On June 17th I was by invitation presented at the Past Masters' reunion. P. M. Bro. O'Brien occupied the Master's chair, and all the offices were filled up by P. M's. Bros. Shoebottom and O'Brien were raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. The last named being an only son of the Master. The excellent manner in which the work was exemplified by those who, in years gone by, were honored by their brethren of the lodge, was one of the pleasures I shall never forget. I trust that at some future day I may again have the pleasure of meeting with the Past Masters and old members of 209a. A pleasant hour was spent around the festive board, recalling reminiscences of years gone by.

Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 171, Lawrence Station: The only opportunity I had of visiting this lodge was on October 29th, 1897, when, as the representative of the Grand Master, I held a special communication of Grand Lodge for the purpose of dedicating their new hall to the purposes of Freemasonry. A full list of those assisting me will be found elsewhere. Since the year 1894, acting under the suggestion of Right Wor. Bro. Brodrick, P. D. D. G. M., negotiations have been going on to remove to Lawrence Station or amalgamate with one of the adjoining lodges after the proper preliminaries being taken by the lodge. I consented to a removal, believing it to be in the interest of the craft. I rejoice to know that my expectations have been realized. Unfortunately this lodge has lately passed through a temporary season of discouragement and apparent apathy, but I rejoice to say has now thoroughly overcome the lethargy which seemed to oppress it, and is working with a vim and heartiness which is bound to make it succeed thoroughly. The hall, though small, is neat and inviting, and with such favorable surroundings there is no reason why this lodge should not occupy one of the foremost positions in the district, as the brethren, individually speaking, are a superior class of men.

After the close of the dedicatory ceremony the Wor. Master, for my benefit, opened and closed in the several degrees, and it is only fair to say that it was comparatively well performed. Two applications were brought in, and it was quite apparent that a Masonic revival had set in. An immense number of distinguished Masons were in attendance, including Rt. Wor. Bros. Dr. Cascaden, Slater and McKay, Past D. D. G. M.'s, Very. Wor. Bro. J. R. Hammond, G. St., and Very Wor. Bros. Callard, Toll, Bribble, Dubber, Mitchell and Bradshaw. I found the secretary's books in excellent shape, displaying earnest care and attention, whilst the brotherly and warm Masonic feeling apparent on every hand must ever remain reminiscences of my official year. The fourth degree being the last but not least was much enjoyed, and a very pleasant and social hour was spent around the festive board in social intercourse.

Union Lodge, No. 380, London: I visited this lodge on No. 8th, 1897, and was received very enthusiastically by the W. M., Bro. Fitzgerald, and his officers, and was pleased to see such a large number of members and visitors present. The W. M. is a good officer, and is ably supported. However, as this was the occasion of a return visit from the officers and members of old 44, St. Thomas, I shall leave any remarks I may have to make for my next visit. After the close of the lodge the brethren entertained the visitors in the banquetting room to a substantial repast, and a pleasant hour was spent before we dispersed. I again visited this lodge on Feb. 14th, 1898, and a very large number of brethren were in attendance, all the officers were in their respective chairs except Bro. Ryan, the J. W., who was called away owing to the death of a near relative. Four candidates were initiated and one raised by the W. M., Bro. Grant. The work was done correctly and impressively. He was assisted by some of the P. M's. A large number of the Past Masters are regular in their attendance, and take as much interest in the proceedings as the younger brethren. Very Wor. Bro. Bridle is a member of this lodge, and is one of the landmarks of Masonry not only in this lodge but in this Masonic district. This lodge was the home of my esteemed predecessor, the late Rt. Wor. Bro. McMillan, suddenly in the prime of manhood he was taken from us, and may his genial disposition and kind words remain to cheer and bless our own lives. I trust that many in this lodge will follow in his illustrious footsteps. This lodge has been very successful in the past, but is temporarily undergoing a period of depression, and I regret indeed that I cannot in my report adopt as my own the language of my two esteemed predecessors.

Unhappily, as a legacy of last year, and as a result of the direction of the Grand Master, an unpleasant trial had to take place in reference to Wor. Bro. Fitzgerald and his officers. The evidence was submitted to the Grand Master and his decisions handed down, and I had hopes that the unhappy differences would be forever eternally buried. The present W. M., Bro. Grant, is a noble type of the Irish race, and a perfect gentleman, one of the most popular Masters in the district, and I am sure is animated by the very best principles of the craft, but unfortunately that turbulent agitation still existed in the lodge, and the general use of the black ball and the non-accession of new blood has not only depleted the treasury; but the spirits of the members individually and collectively are drooping and downcast, simply because as yet no way out of their difficulties has been found. I trust the required remedy will soon be applied. At the time of preparing my report a little difficulty was reported to me in reference to the ballot, time will not permit me to take it up. I have, however, written to the W. M. It will have to be carefully watched by my successor, and I believe he will succeed in amicably adjusting it. In conclusion let me say to all, strive to labor with an eye single to the interests of our beloved order, banish forever and harbor not any spirit of retaliation, follow a course based upon the essential elements of truth, brotherly love and charity in all that pertains to the interest of the craft, and I bespeak for you the same success in the future that you have enjoyed in the past.

In conclusion I now take this opportunity of thanking all the brethren for the kindness and support which they have given me. I have been received everywhere with the greatest respect and consideration. My year has been a harder one than most of my predecessors, and my duties have perhaps been more arduous; however, life-long fellowship have been formed in my Masonic home, and I have learned much in my humble endeavors to teach others. My desire is that my efforts may be of some advantage to the craft, and as long as life shall last I will ever keep a warm corner in my heart for my brethren of the London District. I cannot conclude without returning thanks to all who have assisted me so kindly on many occasions, and must mention particularly Rt. Wor. Bros. Brodrick and Munson, Very Wor. Bros. Hammond, Bridle and Callard, who did many acts of kindness in helping me during my official year.

Fraternally submitted,

W. C. HARRIS, D. D. G. M.

London District, No 3.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.
Table Showing the work done in London District, No. 3, from June 24th, 1897, to June 24th, 1898.

| Number of Lodge. | NAME OF Lodge. | LOCATION. | Meetings held. | | | Total. | Average attendance of members. | Amount paid for relief. | No. of members 12 months in arrears. | Total of all Arrears. \$ | Date of last G. L. Return. | Financial Standing. | Prospects of Lodge. | Can. W. M. work all degrees. | Insurance. |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| | | | Increased during year. | Decrease during year. | Total. | | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | Total No. of all Mem. | Increase during year. | Decrease during year. | F. A. | F. C. | M. M. | Restorations. | Restorations. | Resignations. | Suspensions, other causes. | Deceased. | Reignants. | Members held. |
| 107 | St. Paul's. | Jambeth. | 25 | 3 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 |
| 42 | St. George's | London. | 41 | 9 | 3 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 10 | 15 |
| 94 | St. Mark's. | Port Stanley. | 25 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 12 | 12 |
| 344 | Merrill | Dorechester | 30 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 12 |
| 61 | Kilwinning | London | 114 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 35 |
| 378 | King's Inn | London West. | 65 | 11 | 12 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 8 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 35 |
| 298A | St. Johns. | London | 68 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 35 |
| 140 | Malahide. | Ylmer. | 85 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 13 | 19 |
| 315 | Nilestown | Niles-town | 27 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 12 |
| 330 | Corinthian | London East. | 91 | 2 | 18 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 10 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 25 |
| 340 | Union | London | 108 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 25 |
| 232 | Carleton | Dutton | 35 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 15 |
| 120 | Warren | Fingal | 31 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 12 |
| 399 | Moffat | Harristown | 18 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 10 |
| 289 | Doric | Loobo Village. | 50 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 13 |
| 195 | The Tuscan | London | 76 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 18 |
| 20 | St. Johns | London | 169 | 12 | 9 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 13 | 25 |
| 300 | M. L. Olivet. | Thorndale | 26 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 3 |
| 379 | Middlesex. | Bryanston | 28 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 10 |
| 358 | Del'w'evy | Delaware | 39 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 17 |
| 368 | Henderson | Hiderton | 39 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 9 |
| 190 | Belmont | Belmont | 21 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 14 |
| 41 | St. Thomas | St. Thomas | 161 | 20 | 8 | 10 | 10 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 14 | 24 |
| 302 | St. David's | St. Thomas | 100 | 7 | 0 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 14 | 26 |
| 394 | King's Inn | Thamesford | 57 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 19 |
| 171 | Prin. Wales | Lawrence St. h. | 35 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 12 |

SOUTH HURON DISTRICT, NO. 4

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

It is with pleasure I submit for your consideration my report upon the condition of Masonry in the South Huron District. It is gratifying to report that the district is in a prosperous condition, and the character of the work shows a marked improvement on what I have seen in former years. The officers of the different lodges are for the most part skilled workmen, and the rendering of the ritualistic part of the work is exceedingly uniform. For this I consider thanks are due to Grand Lodge for the efforts put forth by them during the last few years in instructing the District Deputies as to the essentials of the work, and the effects of that wise move are now to be seen in the uniform way in which all of the lodges conduct their ceremonies.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

I originally intended to hold, if possible, at least three Lodges of Instruction during my term of office, so as to be able to embrace the whole district, but there were so many obstacles to the carrying out of this plan that it had to be abandoned. However I held one under the auspices of the Morning Star Lodge on Dec. 8th, 1897, at which there was a large turnout of brethren. Some 63 signed the register, which was a good attendance considering that the place is somewhat difficult of access. The first degree was exemplified by Maitland Lodge, No. 33, Goderich, and the third degree by Morning Star Lodge, No. 309, Carlow. The work was well done in both degrees, and evoked no adverse criticism. I wish to thank the brethren of Morning Star Lodge for the generous manner in which they entertained the visiting brethren on this occasion. A number of the lodges in the district would be only too willing to hold a Lodge of Instruction were it not for the expense entailed, and I think that Grand Lodge might profitably take the matter into their consideration and devise some grant from Grand Lodge, or by a special assessment upon the individual lodges in the district.

VISITS.

I have visited all the lodges in the district once, and some of them several times. No emergency meetings were called by me as I preferred to meet the brethren as far as possible on their regular evenings. The work done by Lebanon Forest Lodge, Exeter, was the weakest in the district, but as I visited there soon after the officers had been installed, and it was the Worshipful Master's first night in the chair, I think that probably it has improved since my visit. The best lodges in the district are Tecumseh, No. 144, Stratford, No. 332, both of Stratford; Britannia Lodge, No. 170, Seaforth; Clinton, No. 84, Clinton, and Tudor Lodge, No. 141, Mitchell. The principal officers in most of the other lodges have their work up well, but in the six lodges mentioned above the floor work is done with more exactness and promptitude.

DISPENSATIONS.

Issued dispensations to the following lodge to attend divine service, clothed as masons: Tecumseh Lodge, No. 144, Stratford, Jan. 2nd 1897, Tudor Lodge, No. 141, Mitchell, and Maitland Lodge, No. 33, Goderich, June 26th, 1898.

BY-LAWS.

A change of By-laws of Tudor Lodge, No. 141, Mitchell, was received by me for submission to the Grand Master.

EXPENSES.

All the lodges in the district contributed cheerfully to the expenses of the District Deputy, and also showed their kindness in other ways.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

Morning Star Lodge, No. 309: I paid an informal visit to this lodge on Nov. 3rd, when the officers for the ensuing year were elected. Made arrangements for holding a lodge of instruction there. On Dec. 8th I held a lodge of instruction under the auspices of this lodge. The weather proving exceptionally fine there was a large turnout of members from the surrounding district. Sixty-three brethren signed the register, which was, in fact, nearly all the lodge room could conveniently accommodate. The first degree was exemplified by Maitland Lodge, No. 33, in a way that admitted of no criticism. The W. M. Bro. A. S. Chrystal knows his work thoroughly and is ably supported by his officers. The manner in which Bro. Beck delivered the lecture eliciting applause from the

brethren. The second degree was not exemplified owing to the Clinton officers not being able to get together from the sickness and absence of some of them.

Morning Star Lodge gave the third degree, for which they had a candidate. W. Bro. Wilson and his officers gave the work in a manner that was deserving of credit considering the disadvantages under which they labor, living as they do long distances apart and not having the opportunities of rehearsing that are enjoyed by most other lodges. A more enthusiastic lot of masons it would be hard to find, and Morning Star Lodge always seems thoroughly imbued with the fundamental principles of Ancient Free Masonry. After the lodge was closed the brethren sat down to a supper provided in the hotel and thus a very pleasant and profitable evening was brought to a close. Amongst the visitors was Bro. Taube, of Harmony Lodge, Toronto, who happened to be in the neighborhood at the time.

Lebanon Forest Lodge, No. 133, Exeter: I visited this lodge January 31st. Unfortunately there was a violent storm all that day which prevented a large attendance as it was almost impossible for anyone to drive. W. Bro. Levett opened and closed in the three degrees and exemplified the first degree. There is good material in both him and his officers and I feel sure that when they work a little more together the work will progress more smoothly. This was the W. M.'s first night in the chair and he was naturally somewhat nervous. The secretary, Bro. Eachrett, is the oldest member of the lodge and keeps his books in good shape. R. W. Bro. Collins is also a member of this lodge and helps it along with his well-known ability.

Doric Lodge, No. 233, Parkhill: I was to have visited this lodge on the 1st of February, which was their regular night of meeting, but owing to the severe storm I was unable to connect from Exeter. However, as they held an emergency meeting on the 15th of February I visited them then. They had a second and two thirds to confer. W. Bro. Wedd conferred the second degree in a very satisfactory manner and was ably supported by the junior officers. W. Bro. Phippen, the present master, conferred the third degree in a very impressive manner and showed himself to be thoroughly conversant with the work. Several new members have joined lately and of such promising material that the lodge cannot fail to flourish. P. D. D. G. M. Dawson was present and took the Senior Deacon's chair in the absence of that officer; he also conferred part of the third degree upon one of the candidates. Doric Lodge shows a membership of about forty and there is only a small

arrearages of dues. It is well insured and the books are kept correctly. R. W. Bro. Sutherland of the St. Clair District was present on this occasion, also several brethren from Thedford.

Irving Lodge, No. 154, Lucan : March 3rd was the date of my official visit to this lodge. W. Bro. Neil in the chair. There was a candidate that evening for the first time in four years. The Worshipful Master and officers all did their work well, and I think that a new era of prosperity has opened for Irving Lodge. Last year the arrearages of dues amounted to about \$200, they are now reduced to \$40. The first degree was conferred by the W. M. and his officers in a very creditable manner, only a little criticism in some of the minor details being necessary. Secretary Irwin keeps his books well, and takes great interest in the welfare of his lodge.

St. James' Lodge, No. 73, St. Mary's : March 7th. I visited this lodge on the above date. There was only a small attendance, although there is a good membership. Some element of discord seems to disturb the harmony which should prevail. However, I think that under the mastership of W. Bro. Donald, who is well informed as to the regular work, and who is ably supported by his officers, that the interest in St. James' Lodge will revive. The dues are fairly well paid up, the amount of arrears being considerably reduced from last year. There is a good insurance carried, and Secretary Carman keeps his books in good shape.

Tudor Lodge, No. 141, Mitchell : I visited this lodge on March 8th. There was a fair attendance of members, but the state of the roads prevented any coming from outside. There being no regular work on hand, W. Bro. French, the present Master, exemplified the first degree, also opened and closed in the three degrees, and I found the work performed in a very exact manner, but little criticism being needed. The lodge is well officered, Bro. Galloway delivering his lecture in the South in a very creditable way. Bro. Goodeve makes a good secretary. The lodge is fully insured, and the amount of arrearages is not large. W. Bro. Caslake and Neil, of Tecumseh and Stratford Lodges respectively, were present on this occasion, having driven up from Stratford.

Wilmot Lodge, No. 318, Baden : I visited this lodge on Friday, March 11th, and passed a very pleasant and profitable evening. Bro. Witt, a candidate for advancement, was passed to the second degree, the work being done in a very creditable manner. W. Bro. Livingstone, the present Master, has the interest of his lodge at heart, and is well supported by his officers. The membership of this lodge is not large as they have very little available territory to draw from, and several of

the members are absent. The lodge is fully insured, and the books are well kept by Bro. Kaufman.

New Dominion Lodge, No. 205, New Hamburg: Visited this lodge March 14th, 1898, and in the absence of any regular work the W. M. W. Bro. Smith exemplified the first degree, also the opening and closing in the different degrees. All the officers appear to take a great interest in their work which was very creditably performed. I took tea with Bro. Holley, who is a most enthusiastic Mason and who possesses some interesting old certificates and an apron dating from the beginning of the century. The books are correctly kept. After the lodge closed the brethren sat down to an elegant supper in the hotel.

Tecumseh Lodge, No. 144, Stratford: I paid my official visit to this lodge on March 18th, 1898. W. Bro. Caslake, W. M., in the chair. A considerable number of brethren from Stratford Lodge, No. 332, were also present. A third degree was conferred, and the work was done in a manner that could hardly be improved upon. By the system of electric lighting that this lodge has, the scenic effects in the third degree are greatly improved. The officers are all well up in their work, from the W. M. to the Inner Guard. The books are well kept.

Zurich Lodge, No. 224, Hensall: I visited this lodge March 31st, 1898, and I am glad to be able to state that the Hensall brethren have at last a hall of their own. Formerly they used to meet in the Oddfellows' hall, and although every District Deputy pointed out their error, they were not in a position until the beginning of this year to remedy it. As there was no regular work on this night the W. M., W. Bro. McKay, opened and closed in the three degrees, and exemplified the first degree, also the secret work in the other two degrees. The work was fairly well done, and I think the brethren are taking a new interest in the affairs of the lodge. The books are well kept, and the contents of the lodge are insured.

Britannia Lodge, No. 170, Seaforth: I paid my official visit to this lodge on April 4th, 1898. W. Bro. W. Ament in the chair. The work done by the lodge is second to none in the district, and the lodge-room is fitted up in a manner that indicates the interest taken by the members. The prospects of this lodge are very bright, and there has been considerable work on hand this year. The secretary, Bro. J. Orr Rose, can take to himself the credit of having the most neatly kept books in the district.

Clinton Lodge, No. 84, Clinton: I visited this lodge officially on April 8th, 1898, and as I am in the habit of visiting there from time to time I always feel at home. The work done

in this lodge is generally of a high order and this year proves no exception, W. Bro. Oliver Johnston, the W. M., being well grounded and an enthusiastic mason. The first degree was conferred on a candidate and the lodge was opened and closed in the first, second and third degrees respectively. On May 31st I was requested by the W. M. to conduct the funeral service over W. Bro. Richard Heywood, who was one of the Past Masters of the lodge and was ever ready to help it along. He was a man who was a thorough mason at heart and the large gathering at his funeral was ample testimony of the respect in which he was held by his brethren. The books are very well kept and the lodge is insured.

Stratford Lodge, No. 332, Stratford : I visited this lodge on the 9th May, 1898. I intended my visit for an official one but as the W. M. had not received my letter they were unprepared for my visit, and as the evening was one of the first warm ones of the year the turn out of brethren was not large when one takes into consideration their numbers. I went up to the lodge room in an informal way, with the understanding that they would call an emergency meeting in about two weeks and that then I should pay my official visit and they would be able to issue invitations to the sister lodges and others near by. However, this emergency meeting never came off, so that my first visit was my last. The officers in Stratford Lodge are elected in June, so that I had no further opportunity of seeing their work. A first degree was conferred the night I was there, W. Bro. Neil, the W. M., conducting the ceremony in a manner creditable to himself and being ably assisted by his officers. The books are kept in good shape.

Blyth Lodge, No. 303, Blyth : This being my mother lodge I was present at every meeting unless it happened to come on the same night as one of my official visits. The Blyth brethren have always taken an interest in their lodge, and the work is generally done correctly. The W. M. W. Bro. Ross knows his work, and is holding office for the second year. W. Bros. Emigh and Carder, old Past Masters, are generally present and ready to fill any chair that may be vacant. Several new members have been coming in during the past year, and the prospects of the lodge are steadily improving. V. W. Bro J. M. Hamilton makes a good secretary, and his books are kept correctly.

IN CONCLUSION.

I have endeavored to bring upon all the lodges the necessity of keeping their dues well paid up, and have urged upon them to conduct their affairs in a business like way, and not allow

any brother to get so far behind in his dues that he finds it a task to get even again. Of course there are some cases of brethren in distressed circumstances for which due allowance must be made.

Before I close this report I wish to thank the brethren of South Huron District for the kind way in which I have been treated ; in no single instance did I meet with the least discourtesy, and my feeling now is one of regret that the past year, which has been spent in pleasant intercourse with my brethren, is drawing to a close. I can only state that my successor in office, whoever he may be, will probably look back to his year of office as being one of the most pleasant of his life, and I would ask for him the same measure of kindness that has been meted out to me.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

JAMES B. TIERNAY, D. D. G. M.,
South Huron District, No. 4.

NORTH HURON DISTRICT, NO. 5.

To the M. W. the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I beg to submit the following report of the condition of masonry in the Fifth Masonic District for the year ending July 20th, 1898.

My first official act was the appointment of V. W. Bro. W. Cecil Morrison, of Moravian Lodge, No. 431, as District Secretary.

I made an official visit to each of the nineteen lodges of the district, taking each one as far as lay in my power on its regular night of meeting. The condition of masonry in the district is, on the whole, prosperous. There has been a net increase of membership, the exact number I cannot at present state as some of the lodges have not yet sent in their annual statement. Some few have made a very material advance, a few have retrograded, while a number of others are standing still. The work in the district is fairly uniform, the lodge dues fairly well paid up, the books in all the lodges well kept, and the attendance at the meetings fairly good. Most of the lodges are free of debt and have money on hand—all except three carry insurance.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

I held two lodges of instruction, one at Wiarton on June 20th, 1898, and the other at Brussels June 23rd. My cordial thanks are due to the W. M. and brethren of Cedar Lodge, Wiarton, for their kindness and hospitality on the occasion of holding the lodge of instruction there, as also to P. D. D. G. M.'s Walmsley, of Wiarton, and Wilson, of Tara, who very ably assisted me on that occasion. Burns Lodge, Hepworth, exemplified the second degree in a manner which left nothing to be desired, and which reflected greatly to the credit of that lodge. Cedar Lodge, Wiarton, worked the third in an exceedingly creditable manner. W. Bro. Ferguson, as Master, was especially to be commended for the impressiveness of his work. Owing to a variety of unfortunate and unforeseen causes, the Lodge of Instruction at Brussels was not an unqualified

success. The attendance was not large, and at the last moment Bernard Lodge, Listowel, which was to have exemplified the third degree, found it impossible to attend. St. John's, Brussels, gave the second in a very satisfactory manner, and I extend them my thanks for their kindness and cordiality on the occasion. Fordwich Lodge exemplified the first.

REGALIA.

At the last Grand Lodge meeting held in Brandford, a motion was passed by the representatives of North Huron District recommending the purchase of a new D. D. G. M.'s regalia, and a recommendation made that I should dispose of the old and ask the lodges for the means of purchasing a new. I must say that I felt such diffidence in bringing forward this matter that nothing has been done. I should recommend that a committee of three P. D. D. G. M.'s from North Huron be appointed at the next Grand Lodge meeting to lay the matter before the lodges of the district.

DEATHS.

I have record of six deaths in North Huron for the year.

Wingham Lodge, No. 286, Wingham, and Bruce Lodge, No. 341, Tiverton, each reporting the death of a brother, but having neglected to give me the brothers' names.

Bro. James Findlater, of Old Light Lodge, No. 184, Lucknow, was laid to rest on March 23rd, 1898.

Bro. Jacob Hepler, of Bernard Lodge, No. 225, Listowell, died on January 27th, 1898, and was interred by his masonic brethren on the 29th.

Bro. John Munro, Tyler of Northern Light Lodge, No. 93, Kincardine, was interred with masonic ceremonies on December 15th, 1897. "Bro. Munro was eighty-nine years of age, and without doubt the oldest mason initiated in Canada."

Bro. Robert Maxwell, of Burns Lodge, Hepworth, also entered into rest in April of this year.

DISPENSATIONS.

I granted a dispensation to Old Light Lodge, Lucknow, to attend divine service. Cedar Lodge, Wiarton, and Wingham Lodge, both applied for dispensations to attend masonic at-homes, both of whom I referred to the Grand Master for the desired privilege.

EXPENSES.

All the lodges of the district with two exceptions promptly and cheerfully contributed for the expenses of my official visit,

and as the contribution was purely voluntary I have reason to believe that where it was neglected ignorance of the established custom in the matter was the cause.

MASONIC HOME.

A circular was issued by me and forwarded to all the lodges *re* the Masonic Home scheme of the Grand Lodge. After duly explaining the object of the scheme the following questions were asked, to be answered by each lodge :

1. Is it your opinion that a Masonic Home should be established ?
2. If so, how much will your lodge undertake to provide annually as a contribution to the maintenance fund ?
3. What amounts will individual brethren within the jurisdiction of your lodge contribute annually ?
4. What worthy brethren in your jurisdiction would take advantage of the benefits of the Home if established ? (An answer to this question is desired after careful enquiry has been made, and you are requested to forward names of any such brethren.)

Only five replies were sent to this circular, of these one was favorable to the scheme,—promised \$25 per annum for maintenance, with an additional \$25 per annum for each member admitted from its jurisdiction. The others were more or less favorable, but were unwilling to commit themselves without further information.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

My first official visit was made to Saugeen Lodge, No. 197, Walkerton, on March 8th, 1898. The attendance was good. The officers opened and closed in the three degrees and gave a candidate his third. The work was well done. Saugeen has a reputation for hospitality, and on this occasion that reputation was not belied.

St. John's, No. 284, Brussels : Was visited on March 21st. Examined books and found them well and carefully kept, reflecting much credit on the secretary. Bro. Creighton, W. M., opened and closed in the three degrees and exemplified the first. The work was done in a very satisfactory manner, especially that on the tracing-board by Bro. R. Barrett, whose intoning was beautiful and impressive. The charge to the candidate by Bro. P. J. Bishop was also a masterpiece.

Visited Wingham Lodge on March 22nd. Had the pleasure here of meeting R. W. Bro. Morton, of Brampton, and his son, R. W. Bro. Morton, of Wingham, also V. W. Bro. Harry Clark and Bro. Hill of Walkerton. The work consisted

in opening and closing in three degrees, and exemplifying the first, all of which was well done. The tracing board, by the J. W., and the charge by R. W. Bro. Morton, Senr., were especially noticeable.

I visited Teeswater on March 23rd, found the books well kept by Bro. O'Connor, and the finances of the lodge in good condition. W. Bro. Dr. Stewart, in the east, did the good work, but he was not supported by the officers as well as he should have been. Plenty of good material in Teeswater but need a little stirring up.

Went to Wroxeter on March 24th. Forest Lodge here is not flourishing, the brethren not having had a meeting for seven months. Had no meeting on the occasion of my visit. Met several of the brethren and had a talk over their difficulties, which I believe will soon be cleared away.

My fifth visit this week was paid to Fordwich Lodge, No. 331, on March 25th. The attendance here was good, the work very satisfactorily performed by W. Bro. Spence and his officers, books well kept, dues well paid up, and lodge room well kept and nicely furnished. This lodge is progressive and apparently has good prospects for the future.

Port Elgin Lodge, No. 429, Port Elgin : Visited here March 31st. Found this lodge in a good healthy condition. The opening and closing in the three degrees were performed in a masterly manner. Books, finances, attendance and lodge room were all well up to the mark. This lodge has been and still is doing considerable work, and its prospects are good. The kindness and cordiality of the brethren here were highly appreciated.

Hanover Lodge, No. 432, Hanover, was visited on April 1. This is the most active lodge in the district, and has made wonderful advance during the past year. The brethren here have moved into a new, handsomely furnished room. The officers are well up in the work, and they are having abundance of material. The evening of my visit they had two initiations, and this with the opening and closing was well performed by W. Bro. Mitchell and his assistants. The Inner Guard and Junior Deacon deserve especial mention, also Junior Warden's work on tracing board as well as Senior Warden. In fact the whole affair was "a thing of beauty and a joy forever." A pleasant feature of the evening was the short address of Bro. Dr. Landerkin, M. P., who arrived rather late in the evening, but who excused himself by saying he had come 400 miles to attend the meeting.

Visited Maple Leaf Lodge, 362, Tara, on April 4th. A number of the brethren, including R. W. Bro. Dr. Wilson, met

me at the station, and escorted me through the town in the afternoon, and in many ways proved to me that they had well and truly learned the masonic lesson of brotherly love. They evinced to me from the moment I came amongst them until I left next day that they understood what true hospitality meant. Their work inside the lodge was as satisfactory as that without. Their opening and closing and exemplification of the second degree were really masterpieces in masonic working. The books in the hands of Bro. Gerolamy were in excellent shape. Love and harmony seemed to prevail, and altogether Maple Leaf Lodge exemplified what masonry is at its best.

Cedar Lodge, No. 396, Warton, which I visited on April 5th, is another example of a vigorous and successful lodge. Three candidates were balloted for on the night of my visit, one was initiated and one passed, and the work throughout was thoroughly and beautifully done. W. M. McKenzie, who ably occupies the east, was well supported by the junior officers. The books are in good condition, dues well paid up, and attendance good. A number of visitors were present from Burns Lodge, Hepworth. The officers and brethren were extremely kind and courteous. R. W. Bro. Walmsley and W. Bro. Ferguson, P. M., kindly helped in the work. The fourth degree was well exemplified by an oyster supper, speech and song at the close of the more serious labors. Warton is all right.

Burns' Lodge, No. 436, Hepworth: Visited April 6th. This is the youngest lodge in North Huron District, and I am pleased to say one of the most active. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, and a candidate initiated. The work all through is excellent. The W. M., Dr. Campbell, and his officers are all well up in their work, and are a credit to Masonry. After the lodge was closed refreshments were served, which were much enjoyed, as were also some songs by Bro. Mullie.

St. Lawrence Lodge, No. 131, Southampton: April 12th. Visited this lodge to-night. Found the brethren in possession of a very nice lodge-room, and the meeting was well attended. The opening and closing, and also the first degree, were well done. The W. M. is well up in his work, and he is well supported by his assistants. Financially their standing is good.

Visited Aldworth Lodge, Paisley, on April 29th: Met in Oddfellows' hall. The work was well executed by W. Bro. Sheppard, and his staff, all of whom I was pleased to find well skilled. Paisley's prospects have a bright side, although they have been rather dull for some time. The outlook for membership is good, as they have two applications in and pros-

pects for more. This being my mother lodge I found present several of the old members who were present when I was brought to light nearly twenty-five years ago. P. M., Dr. McLaren, who occupied the East twenty-four years ago, as also Bro. McGraw, who has been a member since this lodge was first opened. W. Bro. Dougan, of Moravian, was also present, to whom I gave the third degree in Aldworth twenty-three years ago.

May 3rd visited Bruce Lodge, No. 341, Tiverton: The attendance was fairly good. I had the pleasure of the presence and assistance of R. W. P. D. D. G. M. Dr. Martyn and P. M. Bro. McPherson, of Kincardine. This being the regular meeting of the brethren, the ordinary work of the evening was performed. A candidate was passed, and the work was well done by W. Bro. McLaren and his officers. The financial standing of the lodge is good. The secretary's duties are well performed by W. Bro. Chambers. The fourth degree was also well exemplified.

Northern Light, No. 93, Kincardine: May 4th, visited Northern Light. The lodge was opened sharp on time, about forty members present. A number of visiting brethren from Burns Lodge also present. Regular meeting; candidate for third degree. The work as usual in this lodge well done. R. W. Bros. Martin and Collins were present and lent their assistance to the work. This lodge is in excellent financial condition. The brethren are far famed for their kindness and attention to visitors. The fourth degree is never forgotten.

On May 5th visited Old Light Lodge, No. 184 Lucknow. Fair attendance of members. R. W. Bros Martin, of Kincardine, and Tennant, of Lucknow, were present and greatly assisted me during the evening. I found the books of the lodge in charge of V. W. Bro. Harry Days, and in excellent order. Dues well paid up. W. M. Bro. Nichol conferred the second degree on Bro. Armstrong. The candidate was much admired for his proficiency. The work of the lodge was faultlessly done. Harmony and kindness prevail in Old Light.

Friday evening, May 6th, found me at Bernard Lodge, No. 225, Listowel. Examined secretary's books, found them in excellent order. Attendance good. Regular meeting; third degree. Work done in a very satisfactory manner. R. W. Bro. Campbell, P. D. D. G. M., was present, and was presented with a P. M. jewel. After closing of lodge refreshments were served and a concert held, and a very enjoyable evening spent. Bernard Lodge is well to the front.

Paid my official visit to my home Lodge Moravian, No. 431, Eden Grove, on May 27th. A number of visiting brethren

were present from Aldworth, Paisley ; Saugeen, Walkerton ; Bruce, Tiverton, and Bernard, Listowel. Fair attendance of members of the lodge. Opening and closing in three degrees well done. No degree exemplified I was well acquainted and satisfied with the proficiency of the work. After closing a social hour was spent.

Visited Forest Lodge, No. 393, Chesley, on June 7th. Regular meeting ; W. Bro. Dr. Stewart exemplified the third degree, in which he was ably assisted by W. Bro. Mickle and handsomely supported by the junior officers. Books well kept, financial standing good, and prospects fair. A social hour was spent very pleasantly after the close of the lodge.

In conclusion I have to thank the officers and brethren throughout North Huron District for the uniform kindness shown to me during my official term. I have had, time and again to confess that "kind hearts are more than coronets," and I hope that while my duties have been of the pleasantest, that they may not have been without some fruit for the good of Masonry in the district.

Fraternally submitted,

THOS. PINKERTON, D. D. G. M.,
North Huron District, No. 5.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & M. A. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in North Huron District, No. 5, from June 24th, 1897, to June 24th, 1898.

| Number of Lodge. | NAME OF LODGE. | LOCATION. | Memb-ership. | | | Degrees conferred. | | | Meet-ings held. | | | Suspendions, other causes. | Suspendions N. P. D. | Average attendance of members. | Amount paid for relief. | No. of members 12 months in arrears. | Total or all Arrearages. | Date of last G. L. Return. | Financial Standing. | Prospects of Lodge. | Can W. M. work all degrees. | Insurance. |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------|-------|-----------------|----------|-----------|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| | | | Total No. of all Mem. | Increase during Year. | Decrease during Year. | E. A. | F. C. | M. M. | Total. | Regular. | Emergent. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 93 | North St. Clair | Kincardine | 87 | 4 | 11 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 125 | 85 | 60 | June, '98 | Good | Fair | Yes | \$3000 00 |
| 131 | St. Lawrence | Southampton | 38 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 6 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 69 | 00 | 00 | June, '98 | Good | Fair | Yes | 1000 00 |
| 162 | Forest | Wroxeter | 26 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 49 | 00 | 00 | June, '97 | Fair | Good | Yes | 300 00 |
| 184 | Old Light | Lacknow | 44 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 14 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 26 | 00 | 00 | Dec., '97 | Good | Good | Yes | 700 00 | |
| 197 | Saugeen | Walkerton | 11 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 00 | 00 | June, '98 | Good | Good | Yes | 400 00 |
| 225 | Bernard | Listowel | 80 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 19 | 00 | 00 | Dec., '97 | Fair | Good | Yes | 800 00 | |
| 235 | Aldworth | Paisley | 35 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 15 | 00 | 00 | June, '97 | Fair | Fair | Yes | 182 | |
| 276 | Teeswater | Teeswater | 21 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 40 | 00 | 00 | June, '97 | Good | Fair | Yes | 200 00 | |
| 284 | St. John's | Brussels | 57 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 61 | 50 | 00 | Dec., '97 | Good | Fair | Yes | 250 00 | |
| 286 | Wingham | Wingham | 50 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 40 | 00 | 00 | Dec., '97 | Good | Fair | Yes | 250 00 | |
| 311 | Fordwich | Fordwich | 26 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 00 | 00 | June, '98 | Good | Very good | Yes | 600 00 | |
| 314 | Bruce | Fiverton | 45 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 36 | 00 | 00 | Dec., '97 | Fair | Fair | Yes | 250 00 | |
| 332 | Maple Leaf | Fara | 40 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 70 | 00 | 00 | Dec., '97 | Good | Fair | Yes | 600 00 | |
| 333 | Forest | Ches. ey | 30 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 00 | 00 | June, '98 | Good | Good | Yes | 350 00 | |
| 336 | Cedar | Warton | 59 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 85 | 00 | 00 | June, '98 | Good | Good | Yes | 270 00 | |
| 429 | Port Eglis. | Port Eglis. | 31 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 15 | 00 | 00 | Dec., '97 | Good | Fair | Yes | 250 00 | |
| 431 | M. ravin. | Eden Grove | 34 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 50 | 00 | 00 | June, '97 | Good | Good | Yes | 250 00 | |
| 432 | Hanover | Hanover | 26 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 14 | 50 | 00 | June, '98 | Good | Good | Yes | 180 00 | |
| 436 | Burns | Hepworth | 23 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 00 | 00 | Dec., '97 | Good | Fair | Yes | 300 00 | |
| | | | 23 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 26 | 00 | 00 | June, '97 | Good | Fair | Yes | 300 00 | |

WILSON DISTRICT, No. 6.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

In presenting my report of the condition of Masonry in Wilson District, No. 6, it is with pleasure I look back and think of the occasions which furnish materials for this report, and of the many friendly ties which have been formed, and which, I have no doubt, will last until time shall be no more.

GENERAL REMARKS.

The steady progress of Masonry since the days of King Solomon up to the present time should not be wondered at, if we think of the principles upon which it rests and the material which has, and is likely to knock at its doors. Masonry has nothing to offer but brotherly love, relief and truth, therefore only men whose hearts throb for friendship and brotherly love are likely to seek admission to a Masonic lodge.

I find this fully demonstrated in Wilson District, for, as I visited the different lodges, and in many cases never met any or few of the brethren before, I found them ready to extend the hand of friendship, and do all that lay in their power to do honor to your humble servant.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

There are twenty-one lodges in our district, to each of which I have paid an official visit, and found them in almost every case healthy and flourishing. The Lodge of Instruction which was held at Woodstock under my supervision, was very largely attended, every lodge in the district being represented except perhaps two. It was surprising to see the great good this meeting accomplished. I have visited a majority of the lodges since then, and find that the officers went home and ground up, and when I visited them everything was done as nearly as could be expected in accordance with the work as exemplified on that occasion, thus making the work uniform and up to date.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have granted two dispensations to King Hiram Lodge, No. 78, Tilsonburg, the one for the purpose of proceeding to the cemetery in a body to decorate the graves of departed brethren on June 14th, and the other to attend divine service on Sunday, June 26th.

NEW D. D. G. M.'S REGALIA FOR THE DISTRICT.

On being elected to the office of D. D. G. M., I found the regalia, which had been used for eight years, worn out. So on the advice of a number of the members of Grand Lodge from Wilson District, after my election, when I sent my circular letter to the different lodges announcing my election, and asking for a hearty co-operation in the work, I proposed the purchase of a new regalia for the district, which was promptly responded to by the majority of the lodges, but there are still two or three which have not sent their assessment. I have no doubt it will all be paid in due time.

VISITS.

I paid my official visit to Plattsville Lodge, No. 178, on December the 3rd, 1897, and installed a new set of officers, there being no work on except the installation, the W. M. closed the lodge in the three degrees in a creditable manner. There was a good turn out, and the secretary's books were neatly kept. They had a banquet at the hotel after the work was over, at which we spent a few hours very pleasantly, the ladies being present. This lodge has had the misfortune to lose one of its oldest members, Bro. Geo. Risk, who died Jan. 12th, 1898. He left his mother lodge, Blenheim, No. 108, and became a charter member of what afterwards became Plattsville Lodge, No. 178. He was buried with Masonic honors.

Scotland Lodge, No. 193, turned out almost en masse to receive me. R. W. Bro. Miles, of Burford, and a number of the brethren of his lodge were present, also Simcoe, Waterford and Brantford contributed their quota to assist in making this evening one long to be remembered by those who were present. I installed the officers, after which they exemplified the first degree in a creditable manner. The lodge is in a flourishing condition, and I note by their register the large attendance at all their meetings. After the work was over we adjourned to a large hall, where an elegant banquet was prepared, and after satisfying the inner man, the brethren aired their eloquence, and the ladies looked their prettiest. I have many pleasant recollections of my visit to Scotland Lodge.

Norfolk Lodge, No. 10, held at Simcoe. This is my mother lodge, and I paid it my official visit on St. John's night, December 27th, 1897. There was a large number of the brethren present. I have seen the work exemplified in this lodge many times during the year, and as it held its annual banquet that evening the lodge was simply opened and closed in the three degrees, after which I installed the officers for the ensuing year. This is one of the oldest lodges under the jurisdiction of Grand Lodge, and the mother lodge of the first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, the Most Worshipful William Merser Wilson. Among the members there is R. W. Bro. Wells, and a number of Past Masters who take an active interest in the work, and the officers have always taken a pride in doing the work well. The lodge is now flourishing under the reign of W. Bro. Price in the East.

Frederick Lodge, No. 217, Delhi, was visited December 29th, 1897. I performed the ceremony of installation, the officers are young and enthusiastic, a number of them attended the Lodge of Instruction at Woodstock, and I understand they are doing excellent work. They have a comfortable lodge-room, and the secretary keeps his books neatly. The evening closed with a banquet at the hotel, which the ladies graced with their presence.

Burford Lodge, No. 106, received me in their well-known whole-hearted style on January 6th, 1898. This lodge has been strong and prosperous for many years, doing nothing but up-to-date work. It is the mother lodge of R. W. Bro. Fred. Miles, who is so closely associated with Masonry in that locality that you cannot think of Burford Lodge without thinking of him. He is the first to meet you if you visit them, and the last to say good-bye. I installed a full set of officers, whose appearance and enthusiasm promised much for the coming year. We proceeded to the banqueting hall after the ceremonies were over, where we partook of the good things, and had the pleasure of again meeting the fair ones, who contributed their quota towards making the evening a very pleasant one.

Wilson Lodge, No. 113, Waterford, was officially visited by me on January 6th, 1898. They had intended to raise a candidate that evening, but when I got through installing the officers it was so late that the candidate was induced to wait until the next meeting. This lodge, in spite of local difficulties in the past, has many enthusiastic members, and is now flourishing under the fostering care of its new officers. I understand they had four initiations at the last meeting.

Vittoria Lodge, No. 359, invited me to install their officers

on January 7th, 1898. This lodge has had some local difficulties, and is somewhat crowded for material, still it is healthy and vigorous, having many enthusiastic officers and past officers, among whom is R. W. Bro. Dr. Kennedy. There were a number of visiting brethren from Simcoe, Port Dover and other sister lodges. They had a nice banquet after the meeting was over, at which many pleasant friendships were renewed, and a very pleasant social hour brought a profitable evening to a close. Death visited this lodge during the year and took away Bro. D. W. McCall, who was much beloved by his brethren, and highly esteemed by all who knew him. He was buried with Masonic honors May 19th, 1898.

King Hiram Lodge, No. 37, and St. John's Lodge, No. 63, Ingersoll, were visited jointly by me on January 21st, 1898. The officers of King Hiram exemplified the Fellowcraft Degree, and the officers of St. John's raised the candidate to the sublime degree of a Master Mason. The work was well done. The secretaries of both lodges deserve credit for the manner in which their books are kept. There was a good turnout, many Past Masters being present and ready to take part in the work. This is what I like to see, as it forms a pillar of strength to a lodge and encourages the young officers to do their work well.

A Lodge of Instruction was held by King Solomon's Lodge, No. 43, and Oxford Lodge, No. 76, Woodstock. The Entered Apprentice Degree was exemplified by the officers of Norfolk Lodge, No. 10, Simcoe. The Fellowcraft Degree was exemplified by the officers of King Hiram and St. John's Lodges, Ingersoll, during the afternoon, and the candidate was raised to the sublime degree of a Master Mason by the officers of King Solomon and Oxford Lodges, Woodstock, in the evening. It was on this occasion I paid my official visit to the Woodstock lodges and directed the work. This was the grandest meeting of the year, and it was pretty well acknowledged to be the best of the kind ever held in Wilson District. The work of the Blue Lodge was all exemplified from start to finish in a manner that stood the test of the overseer's square. The officers of nearly every lodge in the district were present and took a lively interest in the work. Many questions were asked and answered to the satisfaction of every person present. After the work was over the brethren of Woodstock lodges entertained us at an excellent banquet in the Opera House, at which there were about three hundred present. The Most Worshipful the Grand Master, the Grand Treasurer and the Grand Secretary, together with many more present past Grand Lodge officers were present and formed a staff of speakers, who were well qualified to explain the beauties and benefits of

Masonry. Toasts and speeches followed, R. W. Bro. J. Sutherland, M. P., acted as chairman, and performed that duty with his usual grace and dignity. The evening was one long to be remembered. The brethren seemed reluctant to part, although nearly four o'clock in the morning had been reached, and "Auld Lang Syne" closed the meeting which left its impress on Wilson District. I would not have been able to have held this Lodge of Instruction, had it not been for the Woodstock brethren who so kindly gave the use of their spacious lodge room, and in addition extended their hospitality in such a royal style. I take this opportunity of thanking them on behalf of the brethren of Wilson District, and may the Most High be very kind to them. It is with deep feeling of sorrow that I have here to record the death of one of the most beloved brothers in Wilson District. I refer to R. W. Bro. Hunter, of the Town of Woodstock, who died May 21st, 1898, and was buried with masonic honors. He was one of the D. D. G. M.'s of Wilson District, who made his mark and left behind him scores of friends who mourn his loss.

Erie Lodge, No. 149, Port Dover, was visited by me on January 31st, 1898. There being no work on that evening the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees in a manner that showed that the officers understood their work correctly. They were a new lot of officers who had been installed about a month before. They are enthusiastic, and are adding to their numbers. A neat lunch was served in an adjoining room when the work was over, and a social hour brought a pleasant evening to a close.

St. John's Lodge, No. 82, Paris, received my official visit on February 1st, 1898. It being a very stormy night there were not the number of visiting brethren present that were expected, but the members of the lodge turned out well, and we had a very satisfactory meeting. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees with a snap and vim which showed that the officers were experts. The Junior Warden's lecture was given in a creditable manner, after which the lodge was closed and we adjourned to the banqueting room, where a fine spread awaited us. R. W. Bro. Cox was present and assisted materially in the life of the evening, and songs, speeches and recitations brought a pleasant evening to a close.

I paid my official visit to King Hiram Lodge, No. 78, Tilsonburg, on February 2nd, 1898. This lodge has always been very friendly with my own, the officers having exchanged work on several occasions. It is one of the strongest lodges in the district, having a membership of nearly one hundred and twenty, and more coming all the time. They had two initia-

tions and two seconds on this occasion. The work was skillfully done, and the members were so interested that they stayed to the finish, although the lodge was called off several times during the evening. They returned to the lodge-room every time and encouraged the officers with their presence. That is something the members of every lodge should do. The books of the lodge are carefully looked after, the secretary being a pains-taking officer. The lodge is in a very prosperous condition, both financially and otherwise, having a goodly number of Past Masters who attend regularly, including the R. W. Bro. William McDonald, who is always looking after the interests of King Hiram, No. 78, and Masonry generally. After this busy evening in the lodge-room the brethren proceeded to the Queen's hotel, where an elegant banquet awaited us. There was a very large attendance, and without a single exception the brethren showed great skill in exemplifying the fourth degree. There were many appropriate toasts drank and good speeches made during the evening. The brethren seemed reluctant to part, and how can you blame them? Because what is there that will broaden the views and thaw out the soul of a man like Masonry? The wee sma' hours of the morning closed a pleasant meeting for which King Hiram has a standing reputation.

Walsingham Lodge, No. 174, Port Rowan, was my next care which I visited on February 3rd, 1898. It being a stormy night, and many of the brethren living at a distance, the meeting was not large, but the quality made up any deficiency. There were a number of visitors present. They exemplified the Entered Apprentice degree in a skillful manner, and Major Ryan takes care of the books in the usual neat way. The lodge is increasing in membership, and the officers are well skilled and enthusiastic. After the work in the lodge-room we were conducted to the hotel dining room, where a social hour was spent and old acquaintances renewed.

Vienna Lodge, No. 237, next received my attention. Bros. Biette, Aspinald and R. W. Bro. McDonald, of Tilsonburg, drove me over to Vienna. The sleighing was fine and the trip was a very pleasant one. The officers of this lodge are among the best skilled workers in the district, they are young and enthusiastic, hence the prosperity of the lodge. They exemplified the Entered Apprentice Degree and opened and closed the lodge in the other two in a manner which did them great credit.

Oriental Lodge, No. 181, Port Burwell: I visited this lodge March 8th, 1898. It is financially sound, but not increasing in numbers; it just holds its own. R. W. Bro. Fred. Miles

and R. W. Bro. William McDonald, and Bro. Aspinald, went with me, and caused the evening to pass much more pleasantly. There was no work on so we spent an hour in exchanging views as to how to make a lodge prosperous. W. Bro. Burwell has had the care of this lodge on his hands for a great number of years, but he has now decided to throw the burden on to the shoulders of the younger members, and accordingly gave notice that this was his last year in the east.

Oak Branch Lodge, No. 261, Innerkip, was finally visited by me on May 5th, 1898. I was accompanied by V. W. Bro. Karn, W. Bro. Millman and Bro. Gardner, of Woodstock. We had a very pleasant drive out and back. This lodge labors under some difficulties as its members are so scattered, still they are whole hearted masons, and are trying hard to make their lodge a success. They do their work creditably, and they expect to add to their number before the end of the year. After the meeting we spent a pleasant hour around the banqueting board, and many good things were said.

Thistle Lodge, No. 250, Embro, looked for me on June 2nd, 1898, and accompanied by a number of the brethren from Woodstock, I arrived there about 8.30 o'clock p. m. on the above date. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, and the officers for the ensuing year were elected. This lodge holds its own although the membership is somewhat scattered. The new officers promise diligent work during the coming year.

Blenheim Lodge, No. 108, Princeton, prepared to receive me on June 3rd, 1898. W. Bro. Millman and some more of the Woodstock brethren again accompanied me, and added their quota towards making the evening a pleasant one. W. Bro. Collins and the officers of Blenheim Lodge received us in a right royal style. The evening was very warm, so the lodge was simply opened and closed in the three degrees, which showed evidence of their ability to do good work. They had a neat spread after lodge, and speeches and songs closed an enjoyable evening. The lodge has the proper spirit, and promises well for the future.

St. John's Lodge, No. 104, Norwich, was the last to receive my official visit. I had promised R. W. Bro. McCurdy to perform the ceremony of installation on St. John's night, June 24th, 1898. This I did, although under some disability, as the evening was very warm. This is a steady going lodge, strong in numbers and good in quality. They have a splendid lodge-room. The furniture and working tools are all polished oak, and the members have every reason to be proud of their lodge. They are somewhat slow to take you to their bosom,

but when they do they take you to stay. The officers installed had put some time on the work, and when it come their turn to proceed they did their work like old hands. Norwich is the home of R. W. Bro. McCurdy, and there is no doubt but the lodge benefits by his advice and good influence. The evening closed, as well as my tour of Wilson District, with a spread in the adjoining room, which did credit to the lodge. There was a goodly number out and many members from some distance ; still the good feeling which existed in that banquet room held them without their knowledge until a late hour, and my last official visit closed with the warmest good feeling and pledges of friendship which will not be forgotten.

IN CONCLUSION.

I desire to tender my sincere and hearty thanks to the brethren of Wilson District for the honor they conferred by electing me their D. D. G. M. at last meeting of Grand Lodge, and for their kindness and assistance during my term of office. I trust I have filled the office to their satisfaction.

I further wish to tender my thanks to V. W. Bro. William Kelly, of Simcoe, for the able and efficient manner he has filled the office of District Secretary, and also Bro. Jos. Bottomly, J. W., of Norfolk Lodge, No. 10, for his company on many of my visits.

All of which I fraternally submit,

T. R. ATKINSON, D. D. G. M.,
Wilson District, No. 6.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Wilson District, No. 6, from June 24th, 1897, to June 24th, 1898.

| Number of Lodge. | NAME OF LODGE. | LOCATION. | Total No. of all Mem. | | Mem-ber-ship | | | Degrees | | | Increase during year. | Decrease during year. | E. A. | F. C. | M. M. | Affiliations. | Restorations. | Resignations. | Suspensions, N. P. D. | Suspensions, other causes. | Deceased. | Meet-ings held. | | | Average attendance of member. | Amount paid for relief, in arrears. | No. of members 12 months in arrears. | Total of all Arreages. | Date of last G. L. Return. | Financial Standing. | Prospects of Lodge. | Can. W. M. work all degrees. | Insurance. |
|------------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|-------|-------|----------|------------|--------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|------------|-----------------|---------|---------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| | | | Increase during year. | Decrease during year. | E. A. | F. C. | M. M. | Regular. | Emergency. | Total. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 | Norfolk | Simcoe | 91 | 7 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 114 | 30 | \$415 | 10 | \$60 | June, '98 | Good. | Yes | \$600 00 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 37 | King Har'm | Ingersoll | 68 | 7 | 1 | 11 | 3 | 17 | 15 | 1 | 1 | 114 | 317 | 15 | 23 | 00 | 21 | 175 | 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Yes | 1125 00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 43 | King's Inn | Woodstock | 92 | 17 | 13 | 11 | 10 | 9 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 12 | 116 | 35 | 42 | 00 | 9 | 182 | 90 | June, '96 | Good. | Yes | 1125 00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 68 | St. Johns' | Ingersoll | 106 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 11 | 4 | 18 | 21 | 27 | 00 | 36 | 178 | 85 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Yes | 1125 00 | | | | | | | | | |
| 76 | Oxford | Woodstock | 112 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 2 | 6 | 5 | 15 | 3 | 13 | 6 | 19 | 35 | 35 | 00 | 38 | 260 | 75 | June, '98 | Good. | Yes | 400 00 | | | | | | | | |
| 78 | King Har'm | Tilsonburg | 45 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 12 | 17 | 20 | 00 | 5 | 51 | 00 | June, '98 | Fair. | Yes | 400 00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 82 | St. Johns' | Norwich | 71 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 6 | 18 | 10 | 00 | 20 | 200 | 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Yes | 400 00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 106 | Burford | Burford | 26 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 13 | 9 | 7 | 00 | 6 | 11 | 50 | Dec. '97 | Bright. | Yes | 400 00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 108 | Blenheim | Prince-ton | 57 | 10 | 7 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 11 | 18 | 75 | 7 | 85 | 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Yes | 650 00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 133 | Wilson | Waterford | 47 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 11 | 2 | 13 | 15 | 56 | 50 | 26 | 100 | 00 | Dec. '97 | Fair. | Yes | 300 00 | | | | | | | | | |
| 149 | Eric | Port Dover | 41 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 12 | 14 | 8 | 00 | 11 | 53 | 12 | Dec. '97 | Very fair. | No | 250 00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 174 | Walsing'm | Port Rowan | 25 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 10 | 10 | 6 | 19 | 42 | 50 | 42 | 50 | Dec. '97 | Not bright | Yes | 100 00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 178 | Platts-ville | Platts-ville | 61 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 13 | 21 | 82 | 25 | 19 | 193 | 85 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Yes | 300 00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 181 | Ontario | Port Burwell | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 2 | 20 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 63 | 58 | Dec. '97 | Fair. | Yes | 300 00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 193 | Scotland | Scotland | 38 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 14 | 15 | 11 | 1 | 90 | 19 | 141 | 80 | June, '98 | Very fair. | Yes | 300 00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 217 | Frederick | Delhi | 27 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 10 | 4 | 00 | 10 | 56 | 00 | June, '97 | Fair. | No | None. | | | | | | | | | |
| 237 | Vienna | Vienna | 27 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 11 | 10 | 10 | 40 | 00 | 3 | 10 | 00 | June, '98 | Fair. | Yes | 900 00 | | | | | | | | | |
| 250 | Thistle | Embro | 35 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 11 | 14 | 6 | 00 | 1 | 10 | 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Yes | 900 00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 261 | Oak Branch | Innerskip | 35 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 11 | 14 | 6 | 00 | 1 | 10 | 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Yes | 900 00 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 330 | Victoria | Victoria | 35 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 11 | 14 | 6 | 00 | 1 | 10 | 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Yes | 900 00 | | | | | | | | | | |

WELLINGTON DISTRICT, No. 7.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

M. W. SIR AND BRETHREN,

I have the honor to submit for your consideration the following report on the condition of Masonry in Wellington District No. 7 during the past year.

Having had the distinguished honor conferred upon me while yet a young Mason of being elected as District Deputy Grand Master of the large and important District of Wellington, I assumed the duties of the high office with considerable diffidence, knowing well that I could not possibly fill the place formerly honored by many very able and distinguished predecessors, and also that many members throughout the district were in every way much better qualified to adorn the position and render better service to the craft than myself, and at the same time who had the necessary leisure to devote the large amount of time and attention to its duties which I could not possibly do. However, having been called upon to fill the position I am now free to say that I am glad that I did not decline it, for no one could have received more universal support and uniform kindness, from every portion of the district, and whatever imperfections my brethren may have had reason to complain of in me, they have most considerately overlooked and forgiven them.

I have been enabled to visit officially each of the twenty-one lodges in the district, and all of them on a regular night of meeting. I was particularly anxious to do this, as it is much more satisfactory to the lodges than to be obliged to hold an emergent meeting, although to do this the work was spread over a larger period than it might otherwise have been owing to several lodges feeling that they were not from various reasons in satisfactory shape for inspection, requested postponement of my official visit, and in one or two instances more than once was postponement asked. I was quite willing to accord to the wishes of these, because their lodge belonged to those which had not been fortunate in having much work to do for some time, and they expected to have work on soon. I considered that so good an incentive to the best interests of

a lodge and to the cause of Masonry in general should be encouraged, well knowing that an official visit is always more pleasant and profitable both to the lodge itself and to the District Deputy, when there is work on, and the work is always more impressive and in my humble opinion much better done than when it is merely exemplified.

In order to carry out this intention of visiting each lodge on a regular meeting night, especially when as it happened in some months of my official term five, six and seven lodges met on the same evening, it necessitated a large amount of mileage, and correspondingly large travelling expenses were incurred. I am glad to say however that the lodges in Wellington District are composed of the proper material in the constitution of their numbers or have been well trained by former District Deputies, as they freely and voluntarily contribute towards these expenses, in fact I never had to give the remotest suggestion in any instance, and in two or three cases where that little matter was temporarily overlooked by the officers, all with one exception have subsequently remitted with an ample apology for the oversight.

. CONDITION OF MASONRY.

With a very few exceptions I found the work correctly and impressively done throughout the district. I was particularly pleased to notice in very many of the smaller lodges of the district that the work was on the whole about as well done as in the larger lodges, although not perhaps in every detail of the floor work. The work of the Deacons in many of the larger lodges is done with military precision—this is perhaps where there is more difference shown in the smaller lodges—the smallness of the lodge rooms in some instances interfering with the perfection of the movements.

The lodges in the district with one or two exceptions, I found provided with officers well skilled and enthusiastic and in those exceptional cases I hope for better days to dawn upon them soon. It is not to be wondered at that in a few instances the officers get somewhat out of practice in the work when no candidate has come forward for several years, but I am pleased to say that in this class very few of the lodges in this district are to be found.

The secretaries on the whole are very efficient; nothing tends more to the success of any society or institution than the possession of an efficient secretary.

HARMONY.

Harmony prevails throughout Wellington District. There

was one complaint of an encroachment on the Jurisdiction by a neighboring lodge, but as there was no bad feeling over the matter in either lodge, at the suggestion of the Rt. W. the Grand Secretary, an arrangement of the matter was agreed to which I believe will adjust the difficulty.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have granted one dispensation for the purpose of attending divine worship to Irving Lodge, No. 203, Elora, on October 17th, 1897, and the Grand Master on application to me has granted a dispensation to Speed Lodge, No. 180, to install officers on December 27th, 1897, that lodge having for the second successive year generously given way to a sister lodge owing to their by-laws conflicting by appointing regular meetings on the same evening in the same lodge room; also one to Scott Lodge to wear regalia at a reunion held February 22nd, 1898, on the decennial anniversary of that lodge.

THE DEPARTED.

I will here give the names of our departed brethren which were reported to me, although I see by the summarised reports from the lodges that the greater number have not been reported to me:—

Bro. Joseph Kilgour, an old member of St. Albans Lodge No. 200, was buried with Masonic honors on August 24th, 1897, and Bro. Philip H. Yeomans of the same lodge, who died in Chicago on April 15th, 1898, was accorded a Masonic funeral, on both of which occasions large numbers of the brethren from the neighboring lodges showed their sympathy by their presence.

W. Bro. Dr. H. D. Fraser, an esteemed Past Master of Harris Lodge, No. 216, who occupied the Master's chair only a couple of years ago was buried by that lodge on February 19th, 1898, when a large number from neighboring lodges was present.

Bro. R. G. Lambert of Harriston Lodge, No. 262, was suddenly called away on May 19th, 1898. He was a faithful member and regular in his attendance at lodge. He was buried with Masonic honors on Sunday, May 22nd. He was well and widely known as a prominent business man, and about 170 of his brethren testified their esteem by their attendance at his funeral.

Jeremiah Pickup, an honorary member of New Hope Lodge, No. 279, Hespeler, died at Holyoke, Mass., U. S., where he lived for many years. Deceased was a charter member of New

Hope Lodge ; I received notice of his death on June 6th.

By reference to the summarised report hereto appended it will be seen that some twenty-one in all have passed over to the great beyond during the past year.

FRATERNAL VISITS.

I intended to attempt to carry out the recommendation of the Board of General Purposes in holding one or two Lodges of Instruction, and probably would have accomplished it only for the provincial elections coming on as they did in March, the campaign preceding which I found materially interfered even with the ordinary meetings of the lodges and considerably with my official visits, at the best time in the opinion of the brethren when lodges of instruction would be most largely attended. I found however that the very commendable practice of exchanging fraternal visits with neighboring lodges was quite common throughout the district, and participated in by many who could not have gone a long distance to attend a Lodge of Instruction, and to a considerable extent supplied the place of Lodges of Instruction.

MASONIC HOME FUND.

At the last Annual Communication of Grand Lodge held at the City of Brantford, R. W. Bro. John Scoon, of Guelph, P. D. D. G. M., and W. Bro. R. J. Lockhart, M. D., of Hespeler, were accompanied with R. W. Bro. A. G. Campbell, of Harrison, D. D. G. M., a sub-committee to present the scheme to the lodges in this district with a view of securing the guarantee of a sufficient maintenance fund in the event of the Home being established.

The sub-committee after consideration found that it would be impossible for them to make a special visit to many lodges, and considering that it was a matter affecting the finances of the lodges as well as the pockets of the members individually, thought it better to lay all available information before the lodges and allow them to discuss the matter privately amongst themselves. With this object in view the sub-committee drew up the circular and sheet containing the four questions previously sent out to all the lodges by the Committee on Masonic Home Fund, copies of which are appended to this report, and a copy of such circular and questions was sent to every lodge in the district with a request to have the whole matter fully considered and decided at their lodge meeting in March, and the answers of their lodge to the questions returned to the D. D. G. M., as soon as possible.

Most of the lodges sent in their replies promptly, while a few had to be repeatedly requested to do so.

The sub-committee find that the universal opinion of the members of the Craft in Wellington is that the Grand Lodge cannot at present undertake the burden of establishing such a home. By far the greater number of the lodges reply squarely in the negative to the question as to whether a Masonic Home should in the opinion of the lodge be established; two or three lodges express the opinion that they would be in favor of a Masonic Home provided the funds of Grand Lodge were adequate, or as one or two put it that it would interfere with the benevolent work now carried on by Grand Lodge.

One of the larger lodges in the district went to the trouble of printing and sending out a circular to the individual members of their lodge, but only a small proportion returned any replies thereto, which were about equally divided for and against the establishment of a Home. This was the only lodge whose members promised any financial assistance to such a Home; the whole amount promised being \$24 towards establishing a Home, and a yearly sum of \$17 for its maintenance.

As to the second question, asking how much each lodge would undertake to provide, there is not one lodge in the whole district which promised any definite sum, while nearly all state they can promise nothing.

In reply to the third question, as to how much individual brethren will contribute annually, with the single exception mentioned above the answer is "nothing," and as to the fourth question, asking what worthy brethren in the lodges' jurisdiction would take advantage of the benefits of the Home if established, not one person has been reported to the sub-committee in Wellington District.

The members of the sub-committee in discussing the matter with brethren, and with various lodges individually, did not find that there was any idea prevalent that there was any necessity for such a Home in Ontario under present existing conditions, and that while a very few would doubtless contribute a little to such an institution, it would receive no adequate support from the craft in this district. This opinion has been based upon the decisions received from practically all the lodges in this district, as all returned their decision with one exception, and that one is known to the sub-committee to be apathetic in the matter.

One lodge in the district whose decision was against the establishing of a Home, appended the following resolution, "That in the opinion of this lodge the special fund set aside for

the establishment of a Masonic Home should be transferred to the general benevolent fund of the Grand Lodge.”

OFFICIAL VISITS.

Clifford Lodge, No. 315 : On November 15th, 1897, I commenced my official visits with Clifford Lodge. The weather was rather unfavorable for the drive. Bro. W. Fisher, of Harriston Lodge, kindly accompanied me on this visit. We found Clifford Lodge as I had found it on former visits, small in numbers but well worked and enthusiastic. This lodge, although probably the smallest in the district in membership available for ordinary meetings, is unique in its position under the circumstances in having quite a large sum—several hundred dollars—in the bank to its credit. The W. M. W. Bro. H. Graef performed his duties in the east creditably, while W. Bro. P. M. A. S. Allan, ex.-M. P. P., most efficiently performs those of secretary and treasurer. The S. W. Rev. Bro. Harvey so ably fulfilled his duties in the west that I was pleased to learn lately of his being elected to preside over the affairs of this lodge, and from his energy, great natural ability and enthusiasm, I have great expectations for Clifford Lodge during W. Bro. Harvey's term of office. The J. W. Bro. Dewar, who besides making ample provision for the fourth degree creditably filled the position of J. W., is the youngest member of the lodge, and son of P. D. D. G. M. J. S. Dewar, who was present keeping a paternal eye on his son, and generally assisting by his skill and counsel, all the officers of the lodge. There was no work on, but the W. M. and Wardens showed their ability by exemplifying various portions of the work, and in the opening and closing of the three degrees, examinations of candidates, etc. In this lodge nearly all the members who usually attend are P. M.'s W. Bros. Metheson, Hazlewood, Biggar and Tolton, being present all well skilled and able to work the three degrees. I was much impressed by the true masonic spirit evinced by a liberal donation from the lodge funds to the widow of a former brother mason of this lodge who, although at one time in affluent circumstances, has been reduced to distress.

Speed Lodge, No. 180 : On December 7th, 1897, visited Speed Lodge and spent an enjoyable evening. The attendance was large. Speed Lodge maintains its reputation of doing excellent work. W. M. Bro. A. Robertson in the East exemplified his proficiency in raising a candidate to the sublime degree of a Master Mason, which he did in a most able and impressive manner. The work of the Deacons, Bros. Law and Stephenson, deserve recognition as being in my humble opinion

about as near perfection as it is possible. It was a pleasure to see the military precision and correctness with which they did their parts. W. Bro. Robertson also ably presided over the election of officers for the ensuing year. Had the pleasure of making the acquaintance of Rt. W. Bro. W. D. Hepburn, late of Preston, and of W. Bro. Brill, Master of Guelph Lodge, and the great pleasure of renewing acquaintanceship with Rt. W. Bro. John Scoon, who rendered able assistance in the West throughout the evening in the absence from town of the S. W. I found that Speed Lodge consider, and I think properly, Rt. W. Bro. Scoon a tower of strength to them, always ready and willing to render every assistance in his power in any capacity. I heartily commend the custom of W. Bro. Alex. Robertson in having the candidate so well instructed in his progress in Masonry, shown by the candidate of the evening correctly repeating his fellow-craft obligation, and correctly answering the usual questions and otherwise in the personally answering all the questions in the examinations by the Wardens. Such a candidate is sure to become at once an enthusiastic Mason. A pleasant time was spent at the adjourned meeting held in the ante-room, where I had the pleasure of becoming better acquainted with the brethren. I shall long remember the cordiality of my reception by Speed Lodge, Guelph, and the impressions I formed of the excellent manner in which their work is performed. Much credit is due to their secretary W. Bro. Parker, who is claimed by his fellow officers to be the very best secretary in the district. While all acquitted themselves so well it would be invidious to particularize a part, but I must be permitted to say that I was particularly well pleased with the manner in which Inner and Outer Guards performed their duties, and to prove the Wardens' work as satisfactory I need only say that Rt. W. Bro. Scoon was acting S. W., and Bro. R. M. Lindsay, the J. W., was that evening elected W. M. for the ensuing Masonic year.

Grand River Lodge, No. 151: My official visit to Berlin was made on December 14th, 1897. The weather was wet and the streets muddy and disagreeable, so that I was very agreeably surprised by the large attendance of brethren who welcomed me to their meeting, there being about seventy present, among whom I had the pleasure of forming the acquaintance of a number of distinguished visiting brethren, including W. Bros. J. M. Wilson, of Tecumseh Lodge, Stratford; J. H. Horswell, of Stevenson Lodge, Toronto; D. B. Dover, of Murray Lodge, Beaverton, and several others. There was a large array of distinguished brethren of this lodge present, among them were P. D. D. G. M., David Forsyth; P. M.'s, W. Bros. McBrine,

Oelschlager and Currie. The evening was characterized by almost a suberabundance of work, besides it being the occasion of my official visit, there were one Passing and two Raisings, the election of officers and routine business. The W. M., Bro. Hy. Wildfong, worked the fellowcraft degree in a very creditable manner. W. Bro. W. R. Travers especially, and W. Bro. Charles Stark, each very ably and effectively did the work in the third degree and raised a candidate in that degree. The Wardens Bros. Dr. D. J. Michin in the West, and Rev. Bro. R. Von Pirch in the South, both brethren of well known ability, did excellent work, the former also giving the lecture in the West very creditably, and the latter brother most ably doing duty also as Chaplain, and giving the various invocations throughout the ceremonies in a very impressive manner. I was pleased to see that the lodge recognized merit, and that both the brethren were worthily advanced by the almost unanimous ballot of their brethren. One item in the business of this lodge on that evening is worthy of special mention. A circular to the various lodges was read from Conestogo Lodge, asking aid to the extent of \$1 00 for one of their brethren, R. T. Wood, of Drayton, whose name is mentioned in my report of that lodge. Grand River Lodge decided to take up a collection at once, and the sum of \$8.50 was the result, showing the true Masonic spirit prevading its membership. I noticed that this lodge exacts only half dues from all brethren residing not less than five miles from the lodge-room. After the lodge was closed, the lateness of the hour might have excused a material decrease in the attendance at a sumptuous banquet in the commodious ante-room, but if there was any diminution it was not appreciable. A very enjoyable time was spent in speech and song, and permit me to put it shortly, that Grand River Lodge ably maintained their high reputation of sociably entertaining visiting brethren. I was pleased to meet a relative and namesake who is seeking further knowledge in Masonry, and on whom the ballot had that evening pronounced favorably for promotion. I shall long remember my first visit to Berlin.

Irvine Lodge, No. 203: Dec. 17th, 1897, was the date of my official visit to Irvine Lodge. I regretted that owing to the train being late the brethren who had turned out on such a stormy evening to welcome me were kept waiting, as they had very considerably delayed the opening of the lodge. The W. M. Bro. W. A. Petrie kindly met me at the station and conducted me at once to the lodge room. There was no candidate in waiting, but in order to exemplify the ability of the officers of the lodge, Bro F. Harrison volunteered

to act as candidate, and the second degree was very correctly done, especially the work of the W. Master and the Inner Guard as well as the demeanor and preparation of the candidate. W. Bro. P. M. Edward Burns ably and correctly supervised the work of the officers, to whom they all look up to as an authority in all matters pertaining to masonry. I was much pleased with the kindly way W. Bro. Burns gave and the officers received his suggestions and opinions. I examined the secretary's books and found them all in perfect order. Bro. T. Godfrey appears to be the right man in the right place, as he makes an excellent secretary. I found the dues well paid up except in one or two exceptional cases which were far in arrear. The hospitality of Irvine Lodge is well known, and their kindness to me was genuine. I was pleased to renew acquaintance with the worthy brother then occupying the west, Bro. N. McMurchy (Principal of the High School), and with Bro. Burns, and to form a personal acquaintance of R. W. Bro. T. P. Smith, who always takes a strong interest in the lodge and does his duty faithfully as treasurer, with whom I previously had considerable correspondence in the matter of the claims of Bro. R. T. Wood, of Drayton, on the Benevolent Fund of Grand Lodge. The attendance was not large, only about twenty, owing to the fact that several of the brethren within reach were laid up with la grippe, while the storm hindered many of the members living in the country from being present, but a pleasant time was spent both in the lodge and afterwards at well appointed lunch parlors not far from the lodge room, where ample refreshments were provided and a pleasant hour was spent.

Harris Lodge, No. 216. On December 27th, 1897, I visited this lodge officially, an evening which will long be remembered as a red letter day for Harris Lodge. Somewhat similar to the occasion of my recent visit to Grand River Lodge, there was a superabundance of work for one evening, and in fact the evening had to be considerably extended into the small hours to bring the business of the meeting to a conclusion. Three degrees were conferred, one second and two thirds. Many able and distinguished brethren were present, and several of them ably assisted by conferring portions of the degrees; among those were R. W. Bro. Jonn McLaren, V. W. Bro. J. C. Browne, and W. Bro. R. Irvine. There were also two well skilled brethren present from other jurisdictions, W. Bro. Goetchins, a P. M. of a large New York Lodge, and W. Bro. Pike, hailing from the jurisdiction of Quebec. Among the large attendance of about seventy members and owing to the amount of business transacted it would be difficult to give

a full report of everything. After the conferring of the degrees the newly elected officers were duly installed, and that worthy brother R. Mann, handed over the gavel to the present W. M. Dr. Chas. M. Smith. This lodge recognizes faithful services in their secretary, Bro. D. McPherson, who was re-elected, by voting him a gratuity of \$25 for excellent services during the past year. In such a large lodge he must have well earned it, but it is some compensation to him to have his services which are no doubt great, recognized in a substantial manner by his lodge. After the lodge closed an adjournment was made to the ante-room, for that evening at all events, a veritable banquet hall, and a first-class dinner was served, after which two brethren of the lodge were honored by the presentation to each of them of an address and a beautiful mantel clock. The first brother so highly honored was V. W. Bro. J. C. Browne on the occasion of his removal from Orangeville to Toronto, for faithful services to the lodge, and as a mark of esteem from his brethren as a citizen, and for his uniform courtesy as station agent of the C. P. R., where he had much to do with all the business people of the town. The other presentation came in the nature of a genuine surprise to the retiring Master, W. Bro. Mann, whose long continued efforts for the prosperity of Harris Lodge were duly appreciated by his brethren. Installation night, 1897, will be long remembered in Harris Lodge. I regret to record that Dr. H. D. Fraser, who was unable to be present on that evening, and was esteemed one of the most efficient and skilled Past Masters of the lodge, has since been removed from this transitory lodge by his death which occurred about the middle of February, 1898.

Alma Lodge, No. 72 : December 28th was the date of my official visit to this lodge. I expected good work from Alma, not because of its antiquity but because I knew that my indefatigable predecessor, Rt. W. Bro. A. J. Oliver continued, as he still does, to take an active interest, and to occupy the important position of Secretary, and I was not disappointed. Everything about the lodge betokens success. The W. M., Bro. Baird, and other officers, all acquitted themselves well, and the work of the second degree put on by them was exceptionally good. With the large number of energetic Past Masters, well posted and taking an active interest in its welfare, such as Rt. W. Bros. Ross, Taylor and Oliver, and W. Bros. Wardlaw, Porteous, DeDougall, Kennedy, Turnbull, and many others, Alma Lodge could not be expected to tolerate anything but a high class of work, and further remarks from me are unnecessary, beyond expressing my satisfaction with the excellence of the work shown me. I was delighted with the loyal

and hearty reception accorded to me as the representative of Grand Lodge by the Galt brethren, on this my first visit to that busy and thriving town, and to note the high place which Masonry occupies there. On this occasion I had the pleasure of seeing present an aged brother who had attained the advanced age of 82, still retaining an active interest in his lodge. I was pleased to meet W. Bros. Lockhart and Shaw, of New Hope Lodge, Hespeler, who appeared to be thoroughly at home with their Galt brethren. After the lodge closed the brethren were all invited to the refreshment room to participate in the good things there provided, and after due attention was paid to these the usual toasts were enthusiastically proposed and duly responded to, interspersed with selections by the choir or quartette of splendid voices under the divided leadership of Bros. Oliver and Blake. Bro. L. Chapman also contributed several songs to the great enjoyment of the large gathering, bringing to a close a most pleasant meeting of the craft.

New Hope Lodge, No. 279: On December 29th I visited this lodge, being the third lodge visited this week. It was an emergent meeting of the lodge held for the purpose of conferring the third degree upon one of its members, Bro. Phin, residing at Allentown, near Philadelphia, Pa., then home on a short visit to his old home. The candidate's proficiency in the former degrees and his demeanour throughout explained the secret of the high esteem in which the young brother was held by the officers and brethren of New Hope Lodge. He is evidently possessed of fine mental endowments, and I thought it a pity that his mother lodge would be deprived of his ability. Still his natural endowments will reflect credit on his mother lodge. The ceremony was very impressively and correctly done, the W. M. Bro. R. G. Scott being in the chair. Past Masters Dr. Lockhart, T. Shaw, P. Jardine, and W. Jardine ably assisted by each taking a portion of the work, the last named delivering the charge, although suffering from a severe cold. New Hope Lodge is the proud possessor of an array of P. M's. who take a strong interest in their lodge and who keep their work well in hand and thoroughly brushed up. I was pleased to meet with R. W. Bro. A. B. Jardine, P. D. D. G. M., who although well advanced in years and not feeling very well, attended during part of the meeting, showing his interest in Masonry, and perhaps also to keep a fatherly eye on his four sons who are all P. M's. in the lodge. I was much pleased to meet W. Bro. Wm. Cowan, of Galt Lodge, and Bro. J. H. Naismith, W. M. of Waverly Lodge, Guelph, who both paid a fraternal visit to New Hope Lodge. A sumptuous repast was

enjoyed at the Commercial after lodge, and a pleasant hour spent in speeches, songs, and one of the brethren provided a special entertainment by one of the latest improvements of Edison's phonograph, which gave choice selections of music, vocal and instrumental, and recitations. I experienced special kindness from Bros. Dr. Lockhart, Shaw, and Jardine, and pleasant recollections will long remain of my visit to Hespeler.

Prince Arthur Lodge, No. 334: The 1st of February, 1898, was the date of my visit to this lodge. The evening was bitterly cold and stormy, and the roads impassable, which prevented most members from the country from attending, including several of the most enthusiastic Past Masters. I found W. Bro. M. Wilkins presiding in the East, Bro. E. E. Snider in the West, and Bro. J. Anderson in the South—all of whom I had previously known. I was pleased to meet W. Bro. J. A. Goodall, W. M., of Mercer Lodge, No. 347. There were three excellent candidates to be balloted for—unfortunately only two of them were elected—the other, through no personal demerit, I was sorry to see, was rejected. It is always most unfortunate for any lodge when any private pique or jealousy is allowed to interfere with the proper privilege of the ballot. However, I trust in this case that no serious results have arisen, as I have only learned of one other such instance in the district during my term of office I trust there have been no others. Most of the work of initiating the two candidates was divided between W. Bros. T. J. Phillips and Goodall, while the W. M., being newly elected, did good work so far as he went with it. The work was correctly done, with the exception of certain portions of the floor work by the new officers, which defect I have no doubt has by this time been overcome, as an era of prosperity has come to this lodge and work is plentiful. After lodge the brethren adjourned to the comfortable dining hall of Bro. Buschlen, where a splendid oyster supper, with the genial good fellowship of the brethren in Arthur, helped to obliterate from our minds the severity of the weather out of doors, and will remind me of the pleasant visit I had with the brethren of Prince Arthur Lodge.

Scott Lodge, No. 421: On February 2nd I visited this lodge, W. Bro. J. A. Goodall, W. M. of Mercer Lodge accompanying me from Arthur. I was pleased to renew acquaintanceship with R. W. Bro. R. R. Hopkins, V. W. Bro. G. H. Cooper, W. Bro. J. D. Watson, and the W. M. of the lodge, W. Bro. J. A. V. Preston, besides meeting for the first time a large number of the members who appear to be all very enthusiastic Masons. The evening was very stormy and cold, and a number of the brethren in the country were unable to be present.

There was abundant work on the summons for the meeting, no less than three firsts, one second, and one third, but however only the three firsts were taken up. Scott Lodge prides itself upon doing correct work and they do it. There is such an array of able Past Masters, who keep their work well in hand and take such a strong interest in the welfare of their lodge that Scott Lodge could not very well be anything but prosperous and an attraction as it is to the best class of citizens within reach of it. I was much pleased to meet W. Bro. Campbell again in this lodge, whom I had met in Harris Lodge and afterwards in Wellington Lodge, and who seemed to be equally at home in each of the lodges. The attendance was large notwithstanding the severity of the weather, and a pleasant and profitable evening was spent. After the lodge was closed W. Bro. Watson took charge of the lodge room and constituted himself as mine host for the occasion and served the brethren with abundance of oysters and other good things, after which the customary toasts were duly responded to. Before closing I have to note that W. Bro. Preston (now W. M.), secretary for part of the year, and Bro. McIntyre the present secretary, are both excellent secretaries and amongst the most attentive and punctual in the district.

Conestogo Lodge, No. 295: On Feb. 8th I drove to Drayton in company with Bro. Dr. H. A. McCullough, of Harrison Lodge, to make my official visit. The roads were not very good, it being during a thaw, but we got there and back without any mishap. This was one of the lodges which gave me some difficulty in establishing regular communication by having the secretary send me notices of the meetings regularly. I am pleased to report that the notices have now for some time been coming quite regularly. I know that this lodge had not been doing any work lately in the way of conferring degrees, but they have been doing a noble work in providing for a member of their lodge, Bro. R. T. Wood, who was unfortunately paralyzed. Conestogo Lodge have shown the true Masonic spirit is liberally subscribing for the benefit of a helpless and destitute brother, is arranging for and sending out a request to most of the lodges in the jurisdiction for a small contribution, and further, in undertaking the management of the fund thus provided so as to have it expended in the best way for the benefit of Bro. Wood and family. I called to visit Bro. Wood, who is a very intelligent man, and found him quite cheerful, and very thankful for the benevolent deeds of his brother Masons, although completely helpless and unable to move off his invalid chair. I found the lodge fairly well up in the work so far as exemplified, and the members enthusiastic.

I have good hopes for Conestogo in the near future. The lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees very satisfactorily. It happened that the cheque from the Grand Lodge for a special grant made to Bro. Wood had just that day arrived, for which the brethren duly expressed their acknowledgments to the efforts of R. W. Bro. T. P. Smith, of Elora, seconded by my humble efforts in that behalf. After the lodge closed an adjournment was made to a splendid oyster supper generously provided by the brethren, to which ample justice was paid, and a number of those present being called upon, having responded by short speeches, a very pleasant evening was brought to a close.

Preston Lodge, No. 297 : The date of my official visit to this lodge was March 4th. Although I had not previously met any of the brethren of Preston Lodge, I experienced a kindly reception from all who were able to be present at the meeting, having been welcomed on my arrival at the station by the W. M. Bro. M. H. Rolling, who I was sorry to learn was just recovering after several months of enforced inactivity from sciatica and rheumatism, and with whom just at that time I was in a condition to sincerely sympathize and to fully appreciate his generous hospitality. The attendance at the lodge meeting was not large as the membership is now but small, and no work having been offered for some time it was a pleasant surprise to find so much Masonic enthusiasm amongst the members under such adverse circumstances. The Master and other officers I found well skilled and quite competent to do good work if only the opportunity of exercising it offered. The secretary is most attentive to his duties. I was sorry that owing to pressure of business and business engagements several prominent members of the lodge were unable to be present and that I had not the pleasure of meeting them in the lodge room. The prospects at the time of my visit could not be said to look very hopeful, but I trust that in this instance the unlooked for may happen, and that a more prosperous era may soon come to Preston Lodge.

Waverly Lodge, No. 361 : On March 28th, 1898, I visited this lodge after one or two attempts to arrange my visit, and a most hearty reception was accorded to me. There was a large attendance of the fraternity of Guelph, including a large number from Speed and Guelph sister lodges. Among the distinguished brethren I met there were R. W. Bros. John Scoon, R. Mahoney, Chas. Pettiford, W. D. Hepburn, all P. D. D. G. M.'s of this district, also R. W. Bro. Jarvis, of London. The W. M., Bro. J. H. Naismith, is a worthy brother and a very enthusiastic Mason, although only recently installed

in the East, very ably did the work in the first and third degrees, assisted by V. W. Bro. A. Little taking part in the third. Bro. Little's way of doing the work is seldom equalled. The W. M. of this lodge is ably assisted by his Wardens and Deacons, all of whom are among the younger men and Masons. I found in this lodge the only instance in the district in which the work was assisted by a Masonic choir of four trained voices, with an organist, under the leadership of Bro. Prof. Kelly. The excellent music rendered great assistance in adding to the impressiveness and solemnity as well as the pleasure of the ceremonies. After the completion of the work and routine business, including the decision of the lodge on the question of a Masonic Home, a sumptuous luncheon was provided at the lodge-room and the usual toasts honored in the mildest of liquids interspersed with music and songs by the choir, and capital recitations from Prof. Kelly and others. With the enthusiasm of so many young Masons, the large and constantly increasing membership, and such a large array of well skilled Past Masters who retain an active interest in Masonry, Waverly lodge has bright prospects before it, and may expect great success. I shall long retain a pleasant recollection of the warmth of my reception on the occasion of my official visit to Waverly Lodge, and of the kindness of the W. M., Bro. Naismith, personally shown to me.

Ayr Lodge, No. 172: I visited Ayr Lodge on April 5th, 1898. Like my predecessor I had considerable difficulty in opening regular communication with this lodge by having the notices of the meetings sent to me, but I am pleased to say that some improvement has taken place in this respect. I found work on in the third degree, and the W. M. Bro. Jas. Cassie did very good work in the East. The work was correctly done by the officers throughout, with the exception of a few minor matters of position, etc., which I took occasion to call attention to. I have to specially commend the Junior Deacon on his work, acting for the first time that evening as Senior Deacon, who was absent through indisposition. The pleasant temperament of W. Bro. P. M. Joseph Gillespie was most cheering, ever ready to take his own or any other officer's duty when required, even to the extent of ably fulfilling a steward's usefulness in arranging for the excellent banquet provided at the Commercial after the close of the lodge, when a pleasant social hour was spent. The trouble in the past has been scarcity of material. The officers are able and enthusiastic enough. I understand that troubles of various kinds existed affecting adversely the interests of the lodge, but that harmony at last prevails, and now that the idea has gone

abroad that Masonry is not an exclusive elderly gentlemen's society, and as a commencement has been made, I look forward to very material progress and prosperity in Ayr Lodge, having now let us hope passed safely through a long era of depression, incident to its surroundings. In closing I would commend to the secretary's attention the duty of sending notice of every meeting of the lodge to the D. D. G. M. The present secretary, Bro. A. J. Reid, is very efficient and keeps his books in perfect order, but several of the notices during the past year failed to come to hand.

Blair Lodge, No. 314: Accompanied by Dr. H. R. McCullough, of Harriston Lodge, No. 262, I paid my official visit to this lodge on April 8th. There has been no work for this lodge to do for some time, owing largely to the changes in the regulations of the G. T. R. removing so many of its employees from the town, who largely composed the membership of the lodge, and from whom many of its candidates were formerly drawn. The membership available for the regular meetings is consequently not large, but I have always been kindly received by those present as well on the occasion of my official visit as on several occasions on which I had the pleasure of visiting Blair Lodge. Rt. W. Bro. Hugh Hyndman, Sr., and W. Bro. H. Hyndman, Jr., both continue to take an active interest in the lodge, and hold the offices of Treasurer and Secretary respectively, both looking well after the duties of their office. The W. M. Bro. Wm. Robertson, as did the I. P. M. Bro. Dr. J. A. Greenlaw, before him, ably presided over the affairs of the lodge. There being no work on the W. M. showed his proficiency in opening and closing in the three degrees. The brethren of Blair Lodge, although unable to show much increase during the past few years, do not lack in enthusiasm as has been evidenced by their attendance on the several occasions during the past year when they showed their sympathy with the neighboring lodges in paying the last tribute of respect to departed brethren.

Guelph Lodge, No. 258: I arranged my visit to this lodge for April 12th and the following evening to Wellington Lodge, No. 271, Erin. I was accorded the usual hearty welcome of the Guelph lodges, on the occasion of my official visit to this lodge by a large attendance of the Guelph brethren, many of whom I noticed being from the sister lodges, most of the officers of the two sister lodges being present. The W. M. Bro. J. T. Brill presided in the East. He did very well especially considering that advanced age and consequent infirmities affecting the memory had to be overcome in qualifying himself for the position. The work of the second degree was done,

R. W. Bro. R. Mahoney, Sr., W. Bros Field and Beckmann assisting the venerable Master and the Junior Warden by taking portions of the ceremony. Bro. Darby, the Senior Warden, is an enthusiastic Mason and did his work well. R. W. Bro. Mahoney occupies a unique position and one not frequently found, of having six sons all members of the craft, so that he has in his own family a whole lodge, perfect in number. The work done under the circumstances above related, in addition to the absence of one or two of the regular officers was on the whole fairly good, although I am sure not as well done as it has often been done in Guelph Lodge. As usual the fourth degree was duly observed after the close of the lodge, and an enjoyable hour was spent. This closed my official visits to the Royal City lodges, and if I had to decide which of the three lodges gave me the warmest reception I would be in a dilemma to decide. I shall ever recall with pleasure the several evenings spent with the Guelph brethren in their lodge room.

Wellington Lodge, No. 271, was visited by me on April 13. I was accompanied by three brethren from Guelph, R. W. Bros. R. Mahoney, Sr., and W. D. Hepburn and Bro. Darby, S. W. of Guelph Lodge, so that the drive of 19 miles to Erin and return was a pleasant one. Besides a large turnout of the officers and members of Wellington Lodge, including R. W. Bro. Conboy, I had the pleasure of meeting Rt. W. Bro. Stuart, of Sydenham Lodge, No. 255, and a large contingent from Harris Lodge, Orangeville. Work has been abundant in this lodge during the past year, and the work of the third degree done that evening was excellent, every officer taking part doing credit to his lodge, W. Bro. Pike, from Orangeville, assisting by ably delivering the charge to the newly raised candidate. I noticed that it was not of frequent occurrence in a small village lodge that five Right Worshipful Brethren, District Deputies, met at the one meeting. This lodge has recently installed itself in a very comfortable and well furnished lodge room, and its present condition and future prospects are exceedingly bright. The partners in life of the brethren of Wellington Lodge had taken charge of the ante-room, and the very best of everything was provided in abundance, to which the numerous visitors were made most welcome and did ample justice. The brethren in Erin are all right and any brother who can visit them is sure to be heartily welcomed. The usual toasts of the craft were enthusiastically proposed and heartily responded to.

Galt Lodge, No. 257 : Visited on May 3rd. Having visited Alma Lodge on December 28th, I purposely delayed my visit

to Galt Lodge until now. The officers were all present, and prepared to do the work in the second degree, as two candidates were expected to be on hand this evening, but to the regret of all concerned unfortunately one was prevented by illness and the other was unexpectedly called out of town by telegram a few hours before the meeting. However, the officers exemplified the work in the second degree, and showed proficiency and correctness, although, as is usually the case, it lacked the impressiveness of real work. There were present a large number of the brethren of Alma Lodge, and Bros. Lockhart and Forbes, of New Hope Lodge, Hespeler, along with a fairly good attendance of the members of this lodge. I was pleased to notice the friendly feeling existing between the two sister lodges, having had the pleasure of meeting a large number of the members of Galt Lodge when paying my official visit to Alma Lodge. The W. M. of Galt Lodge, Bro. T. C. Pearce, besides creditably presiding in the East, in this lodge, is the organist in Alma Lodge, and charms the members of both by the excellent music which he provides. I was pleased to meet with Rt. W. Bro. A. Taylor, then gracefully filling the dignified office of M. of C., and with the I. P. M., W. Bro. Wm. Cowan, who is certainly one of the most enthusiastic Masons of Galt. The Masonic lodge-room, with its fine ante-rooms, handsome parlors, dressing rooms and refreshment room, are a credit to the brethren of Galt. After the close of the lodge an adjournment was made to the refreshment room, where a fine spread was prepared. After justice was done to this item of the programme, a pleasant hour was spent in responding to the usual Masonic toasts interspersed with splendid music by a quartette under the able leadership of the W. Master, Prof. Pearce. I hope at some future time to have the pleasure of revisiting Galt Lodge, No. 257.

St. Alban's Lodge, No. 200: Date of official visit May 6th. This lodge has not had much work to do for some time past, although the lodge is in good standing with good officers well up in their work. As there was a prospect of an application I was induced to delay my visit until now. Still the candidate did not put in an appearance. I was accompanied by Bros. Hucks, Ireland, Bingham, and E. W. Lambert of Harriston Lodge, and the evening being pleasant our drive of ten miles and return was a pleasant one. St. Alban's Lodge now have a beautiful lodge room and handsomely furnished. The lodge has been doing good work in this respect, and is in a position now to welcome additions to its membership, which I am pleased to learn have now at last come forward, as shown by the notice of their next meeting, with three applications of

young men, who I know would do credit to any lodge, to be balloted for. I fully expected that a period of activity would soon come to St. Albans and it has come sooner than I expected. I am satisfied that the officers will do excellent and correct work. No work being ready on the occasion of my visit, the first degree was exemplified by the W. M. Bro. Ireland, as well as the opening and closing in the three degrees, the occasion being utilized to a certain extent as a lodge of instruction. The work exemplified was correctly done by the officers, and I was pleased with the apparent desire of all to attain perfection in every portion of it. W. Bro. R. O. Kilgour is a model secretary and is in every way a worthy guide and adviser of the lodge, whose great services to St. Albans and the cause of Masonry are duly appreciated by his brethren. All the officers are excellent fellows. I was pleased to meet Bro. E. E. Snider the S. W. of Prince Arthur Lodge, No. 334, who is proud to retain his membership in St. Albans, his mother lodge. The visitors from Harriston and Arthur were much pleased with the kind reception given them by St. Alban's Lodge, and the pleasant time afterwards spent in the ante-room during the discussion of the luncheon generously provided. St. Alban's Lodge has been called to mourn the loss of two brethren during the past year, Bro. Joseph Kilgour and Philip H. Yeomans, to whom the lodge accorded Masonic funerals, the latter dying in Chicago, whence the remains were accompanied home by a brother Mason.

Harriston Lodge, No. 262: My official visit to my own lodge was on May 9th. I intended to have wound up my visits in the district with my own lodge, but owing to circumstances I was unable to get to two other lodges as early as I had intended. As there has been abundance of work on in this lodge during the past year I have been able on several occasions to see the work done by the present officers. The well known enthusiasm of W. Bro. John Prain, one of the oldest masons in the lodge, was acknowledged by his brethren by placing him in the east, and he very worthily fills the position although for several months suffering from ill health of a nature to seriously affect his acquirement of the work which he does very well. At the first meeting of this lodge after my election as District Deputy, I was tendered a very kind and enthusiastic reception and banquet by my brethren of Harriston Lodge, on which occasion about a dozen of the brethren of St. Albans Lodge, No. 200, paid us a fraternal visit. On the evening of my official visit a worthy candidate was duly initiated into the mysteries of Free Masonry by the W. M., ably assisted by the Wardens and other officers. I may mention

that last fall this lodge instituted regular meetings for instruction, electing their officers for the ensuing meeting each evening, and the Master elect appointing the work to be practiced. It was kept up for several months, and had a beneficial effect on the working of the lodge. Some of the junior officers—especially the S. W. Bro. Dr. H. R. McCullough—exemplifying most of the three degrees in a very able and creditable manner, thus well qualifying for the east when called upon by his lodge to preside. I see by the returns from this lodge that the arrears of dues appear to be very large. The custom is to pay at the end of the year, but as most of the brethren are a little later paying they are returned by the auditors as in arrears on December 27th, although as a rule the greater part of the dues are paid shortly afterwards. This lodge has never been in better financial standing than now, and the number of brethren more than twelve months in arrear is very small.

Durham Lodge, No. 306 : On May 31st, 1898, I paid my official visit to this lodge. There was no work on but it was the meeting for electing the officers for the ensuing year. I noticed during the past year from the notices, which the efficient secretary, Bro. Geo. Russell, regularly sent me, that no work has been done in this lodge, and I endeavored to trace the cause, and I believe I have discovered the chief cause in the very unwise action of the members in reelecting the same officers to the respective chairs for several years in succession. While the officers in question are not free from blame in accepting office which I feel they did reluctantly, the members are chiefly to blame for the state of affairs. I was told that several of the officers had been in the chairs for five or six years. I consider this has a decided influence against the success of any lodge. I noticed in the election for Master that one of the Wardens stated to the brethren that he did not desire to be a candidate for the Master's chair. In that case he should have declined to retain his Warden's chair for the fifth or sixth year, to which the members, I consider, very unwisely re-elected him. There are sufficient younger members in the lodge to make very efficient officers. but they see no prospect ahead of them of advancement to those positions to which every Mason of ability who is willing to devote the necessary attention and study to the work, is justly entitled, and I learned from conversation with a number of the younger members that owing to the state of affairs in this respect existing for several years, they had lost a good deal of their interest in Masonry. I find no fault with the present officers, who are well posted and efficient, but in justice to the best interests of the lodge and the cause of Masonry in general they should take a decided stand

and refuse to be elected several years in succession, to the same position. These remarks apply more particularly to the W. Master, Wardens and Deacons. I would direct the attention of my successor most especially to Durham Lodge. If officers and members would only be guided by the suggestion I have made I venture to hope that there would soon be work on hand, and the inertia of the past few years would speedily disappear. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees very creditably, although occasionally there appeared evidence of lack of practice. I would recommend the Master of Ceremonies to be allowed to take the lodge in hand occasionally for a practice in some of the most ordinary ceremonies, such as giving the Grand Honors and the like. Although not a large meeting, considering the time of the year and the length of the time since, I understand, actual work has been done, I was well satisfied with the attendance. I trust at some future time to re-visit Durham Lodge and that more life and activity will be apparent.

Mercer Lodge, No. 347: This lodge, which I visited on June 3rd, was the last lodge in the district in my official tour. During the earlier part of my term, Mercer lodge was greatly troubled over the difficult matter of adjusting their rent account with the estate of the late Bro. John Beattie, of Fergus, and to such an extent that for a time regular meetings were not held. I was pleased to find, however, on the occasion of my visit that matters were looking better, and the lodge had to some extent recovered their wonted vigor, and although that difficulty was not quite settled, the indications were that a favorable settlement would soon be reached. I reached the town in the afternoon, and on looking up the worthy secretary, W. Bro. James Philip, he kindly showed me some of the picturesque scenes of Fergus, and introduced me to a number of the brethren of Mercer Lodge with whom I felt perfectly at home. W. Bro. J. A. Goodall, of Belmont, is the Master of the lodge, and presided in the East. I had the pleasure of seeing Bro. Goodall's work in Prince Arthur Lodge, and he did fully better in his own lodge. The work was an initiation, and all the officers of the lodge were present except the J. D., and did their work well, except that a substitute was provided for the J. D. during part of the ceremony. The difficulty about the rent came in for a large share of discussion, but I was pleased to see that the lodge was manfully facing the difficulty, and that the prospects were good for settlement. W. Bro. J. B. Bayne, the I. P. M., is a very worthy brother, and one who has the prosperity of Mercer Lodge at heart. The genial countenance and friendly manner of the secretary is very plea-

sant to see. This lodge, which has been rather under a cloud during the past year, has already entered on a more prosperous era, and as the officers are well qualified and enthusiastic, and have prospects of other candidates coming forward, there is every reason to expect more success in the near future.

IN CONCLUSION.

I find on examining the statement sent me by each lodge, although the total membership of the district remains about the same as last year with possibly a slight increase, that a large number have been removed by death, resignations and suspensions for N. P. D., the latter owing to the application of more business-like methods to the finances of the lodges throughout the district, so that in many of the lodges the past year has been a period of great activity, while only in five lodges has no work been done during the year, and in one or two of these work is now coming on, notably St. Albans, No. 200, which ends the present masonic year with three excellent applications for the ballot at the next meeting. The dues are on the whole well paid up, even better than would appear from the summarised report appended hereto, which in a few cases shows a large amount in arrear at the time when the lodge books were closed for their yearly audit, but greatly reduced shortly afterwards. I regret that the report from Guelph Lodge, No. 258, has not at the time of sending in my report come to hand, although the very efficient Secretary, Bro. A. Cordiner, who I feel satisfied is not at fault, wrote me that he would send it immediately after the 23rd of June, when his books were to be audited. Several other lodge reports have only come to hand at the eleventh hour after the third request to send same promptly. Those lodges overlook the fact that want of promptness in this respect causes great inconvenience to the District Deputy and adds much to his labors and anxiety as it delays his report to the Grand Lodge.

In conclusion I desire again to thank the brethren for the distinguished honor they have conferred upon me, and more especially for the great kindness and cordial reception accorded to me by every lodge in the district, being of the warmest and most enthusiastic character in certain cases where I had no reason to expect such, beyond the knowledge that the characteristics of brotherly love and loyalty to the representative of the Grand Lodge dominate the officers and members of the Masonic fraternity throughout Wellington District.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

A. G. CAMPBELL, D. D. G. M.,
Wellington District, No. 7

APPENDIX CIRCULAR.

HARRISTON, January 20th, 1898.

To the Worshipful Master of Lodge, No. . . , A. F. & A. M. :

DEAR SIR AND W. BRO. :

re MASONIC ASYLUM FUND.

As you are probably aware there is an old fund in Grand Lodge which was started in the early days of Masonry in Canada for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a Masonic Asylum or Home.

This fund has been, we believe, practically at a stand-still for many years now. There are those in Grand Lodge who would like to see a Masonic Home or Asylum established in Ontario, and while others claim that the fund, amounting to some \$14,000 or \$15,000, is far too small for such a large and expensive undertaking, and that in the Province of Ontario there is not now under the present conditions the same need of a Masonic Home as there was in the earlier days of Masonry in this Province. There is no doubt that a much larger fund must be provided if the Grand Lodge should decide to go on with such a great undertaking, and it would be necessary for all the lodges in the jurisdiction to contribute not only for the building and establishing of the Home, but would have to contribute regularly for its annual maintenance.

A committee of Grand Lodge has been having this matter under consideration for some time, and at last annual communication of Grand Lodge reported that the committee had sent out a circular to all the lodges in the jurisdiction to find out the opinion of the craft generally in the matter; and the committee stated that 264 lodges sent no answers to their circular, while those that sent answers were by no means unanimous in their opinions, while many only sent partial answers, and very little money was promised.

In order to endeavor to better reach the brethren throughout the jurisdiction and obtain better expressions of opinion on the matter of establishing a Masonic Home, the Grand Lodge, without committing itself in any way on the matter, appointed a sub-committee for each district, consisting of the D. D. G. M. and two other brethren in the district, such sub-committee to visit, if possible, each lodge in the District, and present the scheme with the view of securing the guaranty of a sufficient maintenance fund in the event of the Home being established.

In Wellington District, No. 7, the sub-committee appointed consists of the undersigned R. W. Bro. John Scoon, of Guelph, W. Bro. R. J. Lockhart, M. D., of Hespeler, and the D. D. G. M.

We the said committee after due consideration believe that it would be quite impossible for us to visit together all the lodges in the district, and have therefore decided to address this circular to all those lodges that we may not be able to visit together personally, and we would ask to have this matter brought up and dealt with at your regular meeting in March, after due notice thereof being placed on the summonses for such meeting, and that answers be passed by your lodge and sent to the D. D. G. M., Bro. A. G. Campbell, at once thereafter to the four questions sent herewith, with any further information deemed necessary by your lodge.

To enable your lodge to understand the matter better we would ask you to place notice of this special business "*re* Masonic Home" on

each summons for your March meeting: To have the Grand Lodge Report of 1897 at your lodge meeting, and that the report of committee which is found on pages 281, 282 and 283 therein be read at your meeting along with the circular letter.

Hoping that you will kindly have the above matter duly attended to by your lodge, and wishing your lodge every prosperity.

Yours fraternally,

| | | | |
|---------|-----------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Signed, | JOHN SCOON, | } Sub-Com. Masonic Asylum | |
| | R. J. LOCKHART, | | } Fund, District No. 7. |
| | A. G. CAMPBELL, | | |

QUESTIONS—*THE* MASONIC HOME.

Please return the answers of your lodge to A. G. Campbell, Harriston, P. O., by the last day of March next, to the following four questions:

1. Is it the opinion of your lodge that a Masonic Home should be established?
2. If so, how much will your lodge undertake to provide annually as a contribution to the maintenance fund?
3. What amounts will individual brethren within the jurisdiction of your lodge contribute annually?
4. What worthy brethren in your jurisdiction would take advantage of the benefits of the Home if established? (An answer to this question is desired after careful enquiry has been made, and you are requested to forward the names of any such brethren).

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & M. A. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table showing the work done in Wellington District, No. 7, from June 24th, 1897, to June 24th, 1898.

| Number of Lodge. | NAME of Lodge. | LOCATION. | Memberships. | | | Degrees conferred. | | | Meetings held. | | | Average attendance of members. | Amount paid for relief in arrears. | No. of members 12 months in arrears. | Total or all Arrears. | Date of last G. L. Return. | Financial Standing. | Prospects of Lodge. | Can W. M. work all degrees. | Insurance. |
|------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------|-------|----------------|----------|-----------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| | | | Total No. of all Mem. | Increase during year. | Decrease during year. | F. A. | F. C. | M. M. | Total. | Regular. | Emergent. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Deceased. | Suspensions, other causes. | Suspensions, N. P. D. | Restorations. | Restorations. | Resignations. | Suspensions, other causes. |
| 172 | Alma | Gall. | 16 | 7 | 1 | 13 | 15 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 15 | 175.00 | 4 | 175.00 | June, 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | Joint. | |
| 171 | Grantham | Bellevue | 16 | 8 | 1 | 13 | 15 | 10 | 3 | 1 | 15 | 110.00 | 11 | 110.00 | Dec, 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 700.00 | |
| 172 | AVP | AVP | 16 | 5 | 3 | 13 | 13 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 15 | 110.00 | 11 | 110.00 | June, 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | | |
| 180 | Speed | Guelph | 17 | 15 | 6 | 14 | 14 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 14 | 22.00 | 27 | 22.00 | Dec, 97 | Very fair. | Good. | Yes | | |
| 200 | St. Albans. | Mount Forest. | 17 | 15 | 1 | 14 | 14 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 14 | 10.00 | 17 | 10.00 | June, 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 500.00 | |
| 163 | Irvine | Flora | 12 | 15 | 1 | 16 | 15 | 15 | 3 | 1 | 15 | 10.00 | 12 | 10.00 | June, 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 1200.00 | |
| 166 | Harris | Orangeville | 20 | 15 | 1 | 11 | 15 | 5 | 9 | 1 | 15 | 5.00 | 20 | 5.00 | Dec, 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 600.00 | |
| 277 | Gall. | Gall. | 20 | 1 | 4 | 11 | 16 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 16 | 96.00 | 20 | 96.00 | June, 97 | Good. | Excellent. | Yes | 700.00 | |
| 278 | Guelph. | Guelph. | 70 | 13 | 4 | 13 | 18 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 18 | 3.00 | 33 | 3.00 | June, 97 | Good. | Very good. | Yes | 600.00 | |
| 286 | Guelph. | Guelph. | 50 | 4 | 1 | 12 | 13 | 13 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 75.00 | 33 | 75.00 | June, 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 200.00 | |
| 292 | Harriston. | Harriston | 53 | 6 | 4 | 13 | 13 | 14 | 2 | 1 | 13 | 9.00 | 17 | 9.00 | Dec, 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 400.00 | |
| 293 | Wellington | Erin. | 49 | 10 | 1 | 11 | 12 | 14 | 2 | 1 | 12 | 20.00 | 10 | 20.00 | Dec, 97 | Fair. | Good. | Yes | 400.00 | |
| 271 | New Hope. | Hesper | 50 | 6 | 1 | 11 | 12 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 12 | 20.00 | 17 | 20.00 | Dec, 97 | Fair. | Fair. | Yes | 450.00 | |
| 295 | Conestoga. | Drayton | 50 | 6 | 1 | 11 | 12 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 12 | 20.00 | 10 | 20.00 | Dec, 97 | Fair. | Fair. | Yes | 400.00 | |
| 296 | Preston | Preston | 21 | 3 | 1 | 11 | 10 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 70.11 | 8 | 70.11 | Dec, 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 200.00 | |
| 297 | Durham | Durham | 32 | 4 | 1 | 11 | 12 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 2.00 | 10 | 2.00 | June, 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 200.00 | |
| 314 | Blair | Falmorston | 50 | 4 | 1 | 11 | 13 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 40.00 | 6 | 40.00 | Dec, 97 | Fair. | Fair. | Yes | 400.00 | |
| 315 | Clifford | Clifford | 28 | 4 | 1 | 11 | 13 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 40.00 | 7 | 40.00 | June, 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 400.00 | |
| 331 | Prince Arthur | Arthur | 31 | 5 | 4 | 11 | 12 | 15 | 1 | 1 | 15 | 20.00 | 11 | 20.00 | Dec, 97 | Fair. | Fair. | Yes | 300.00 | |
| 347 | Mercer | Fergus | 13 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 10 | 9 | 1 | 9 | 10.00 | 11 | 10.00 | June, 97 | Good. | Fair. | Yes | 300.00 | |
| 361 | Waverly | Guelph | 17 | 7 | 1 | 11 | 13 | 20 | 5 | 1 | 20 | 15.00 | 32 | 15.00 | Dec, 97 | Fair. | Fair. | Yes | 300.00 | |
| 321 | Scott | Grand Valley | 17 | 7 | 1 | 13 | 15 | 15 | 1 | 1 | 15 | 16.00 | 5 | 16.00 | Dec, 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 300.00 | |

HAMILTON DISTRICT, No. 8.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

In accordance with the requirements of the constitution, I herewith present my report on the condition of the Craft in the Eighth Masonic District.

My first duty on assuming office was to appoint W. Bro. Fred. A. Latshaw of Dundas, as my secretary, and I cannot speak too highly of the manner in which he has discharged the duties of that office. He has accompanied me on every official visit except one, and then he was detained through illness. I have visited every lodge in the district and some of them more than once. A very cordial reception has been accorded me on each and every visit. The lodges have all done their whole duty in this respect, and in every case the customary allowance for expenses has been cheerfully given.

On securing a copy of the Proceedings of last Grand Lodge, I looked carefully to see any recommendations which might be made for my guidance, and noted two or three specially, viz., Lodges of Instruction, securing the affiliation of non-affiliated Masons, and the matter of relief. I have brought the latter two questions before nearly every lodge in the district.

LODGES OF INSTRUCTION.

After giving this matter some consideration, I decided it was of very little use to call a Lodge of Instruction in some central place as Hamilton and invite all the lodges to attend, so I endeavored to divide the district into sections, and hold a Lodge of Instruction in each section, and for the most part found the lodges fall readily in with the suggestion; accordingly, I have held three District Lodges of Instruction.

The first was held in Binbrook in connection with my official visit to Harmony Lodge, No. 57. I invited St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 62, of Caledonia to exemplify the first degree, Wentworth Lodge, No. 166, Stoney Creek, the second, and Harmony Lodge, No. 57, the third. This was on October 6th, 1897, and although the lodge was opened sharp at 4.30 o'clock, over eighty brethren were present.

The first and second degrees were exemplified, when all the brethren were most hospitably entertained by the Harmony Lodge. After the banquet was over we returned to the lodge and Harmony, No. 57, worked the third degree. All three degrees were well conferred, and showed very careful preparation on the part of the officers of the various lodges. This was indeed a red letter day for Harmony Lodge, as over ninety brethren registered representing eleven different lodges.

I was accompanied on this visit by R. W. Bro. Geo. C. Holden, P. D. D. G. M., and W. Bros. J. G. Gauld, F. J. McMichael, Lyman Lee, Wm. Birrell, Walter Greenhill, J. Cheyne and Chas. S. Kilgour and a large number of brethren, and all expressed the opinion that the Lodge of Instruction was a decided success.

The second Lodge of Instruction was held in Dundas, January 31st, 1898, and was participated in by Valley Lodge, No. 100; Seymour, No. 272, of Ancaster; Dufferin, No. 291, West Flamboro, and Waterdown Lodge, No. 357, Millgrove.

The first degree was exemplified by Dufferin Lodge, the second by Seymour Lodge, and the third by Valley Lodge. The officers of the various lodges participating had been practising their several degrees for some time previously, and put the work on in a very creditable manner indeed.

The third was held in Georgetown, May 6th, when the degrees were exemplified respectively by St. Clair, No. 135, Milton; Walker, No. 321, Acton West, and Credit, No. 219.

The officers of the various lodges had been at work for some months and their work was well nigh perfect. Here we found the brethren entering into their work with a determination to succeed, and while all did well, I think perhaps Credit Lodge is deserving of special mention. Many questions were asked, to some of which I was able to give satisfactory answers.

DEATHS.

Death has been at work during the year thinning our ranks, and many brethren have been summoned from our midst to join in the Grand Lodge above. May they rest from their labors.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have issued six dispensations during the year, and in each case it has been for the purpose of attending divine service. Seymour Lodge, No. 272, I notice, has made this a yearly occurrence, and I think the lodge is to be commended. I would recommend every lodge, where it is at all practicable, to attend such service at least once a year. The following are the dis-

dispensations granted : Seymour, No. 272, for August 14th ; Dufferin, No. 291, for September 19th ; Wentworth, No. 166, for September 19th ; Strict Observance, No. 27, for December 26th ; Credit, No. 219, and Barton, No. 6, for June 26th. The fees for the dispensations are inclosed herein.

VISITS.

On October 6th, 1897, I visited Harmony Lodge, No. 57, Binbrook. Found the lodge in a very prosperous condition. W. Bro. J. F. Senn is a model secretary, and the financial condition of the lodge is excellent. Considerable work has been done. The lodge owns the building in which it meets, and rents the lower story as a store. Total assets about \$1,500. The rooms had been newly papered and painted, and everything presented a very comfortable appearance.

November 8th : Visited Wentworth Lodge, No. 166, Stony Creek, and was accompanied by R. W. Bros. J. Hoodless, J. Malloy and G. C. Holden and about thirty-five brethren from the lodges in Hamilton. This lodge is in a good condition. They also own the building in which they meet and have one of the neatest lodge rooms in the district. The lodge is well officered and everything prosperous. Total assets \$1,100.

November 17th : Visited Burlington Lodge accompanied by R. W. Bros. John Malloy and T. McCallum and about fifty brethren from the various Hamilton lodges, also from several other places. The lodge has a large average attendance, and the secretary reports a very noticeable revival of interest among the members, and they had considerable work on hand. The officers initiated a candidate and the work was very creditably performed. A pleasing feature of this visit was the fact, that it was my mother lodge and this was the 25th anniversary of my initiation. I was introduced by R. W. Bro. Wm. Kerns, M. P. P., who was W. Master at time of my initiation. After the work of the evening was over, R. W. Bro. Kerns on behalf of the lodge, presented me with a beautiful silver carving set as a memento of my visit.

December 8th : Visited Seymour Lodge, No. 272, Ancaster, accompanied by about twenty-five brethren from Hamilton, Flamboro and Dundas, among whom were R. W. Bros. G. C. Holden, T. McCallum, W. G. Reid and R. L. Gunn. This lodge is doing well and reports a considerable increase and its average attendance is very good. Two candidates were initiated. The secretary, Bro. Dr. Farmer, is very thorough in his work and reports only six members over twelve months in arrears.

December 10th, visited Acacia Lodge, No. 61 : This lodge was ably presided over by W. Bro. R. V. Mathews, and its

standing is excellent. It being the annual meeting no degrees were conferred. I presided at the election of officers for the ensuing year. The W. Master elect being an Israelite, shows the broadness of our institution, knowing no difference between Jew and Gentile. The meeting was very large and enthusiastic, over three hundred and fifty brethren being present.

December 14th, visited Temple Lodge, No. 324: W. Bro. A. M. Cunningham, the Worshipful Master of this lodge, has proven himself a model Master, and the lodge has done well under his administration. He has, during his incumbency of the chair, invited at different times the various lodges of the city to visit Temple and exemplify the work. These visits have been productive of much good. He has also used lime light views in exemplifying the lectures of the various degrees. This was the annual meeting of the lodge, and I was asked to preside at the election of officers. The meeting was signalized by the presence of M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada; R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, Deputy Grand Master; M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, Grand Treasurer, and R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, Grand Secretary. The meeting was a great success and augers well for the prosperity of the lodge.

December 16th, visited St. John's Lodge, No. 40, which has been presided over during the past year by W. Bro. J. E. Riddell. It was a great deal of pleasure that the lodge was able to have the Worshipful Master present, as he had been very ill during a portion of the year, and at one time his life was despaired of. We are grateful to the Great Architect of the Universe for having spared his life to the lodge. This was also the annual meeting, and was largely attended, probably not less than four hundred Masons being present. The election of officers was the chief business of the evening in the lodge-room.

Dec. 17: Visited the lodge of Strict Observance, No. 27, and was welcomed by W. Bro. G. W. Kappeler. This was also the election of officers, at which I presided. An excellent staff was elected for the ensuing year. This closed one of the busiest weeks of the year so far as my duties as D. D. G. M. were concerned, and what I say of one of the city lodges may be truthfully said of all, that they are in excellent condition financially and numerically, and everything points to a very successful future for the various lodges. They all vie with each other in friendly and brotherly rivalry, and while the brethren are divided so far as their Masonic homes are concerned, yet they all meet as one, and it is scarcely possible to tell to which lodge a brother belongs, the utmost good will and

harmony pervading the lodges. Where such is the case it would be invidious to draw comparisons.

Jan. 4: Visited Waterdown Lodge, No. 357, located at Millgrove, accompanied by R. W. Bro. G. C. Holden and W. Bros. Walder Parke, Jas. F. Mercer, Chas. Smith and Chas. S. Kilgour. A number of worshipful brethren from Flamboro were also present. This lodge has been on the down grade for a number of years, and as a last resort, its location was changed from Waterdown to Millgrove. At the time of my visit no change for the better was manifest, and yet the Worshipful Master and brethren seemed anxious for the prosperity of the lodge. We had a very pleasant evening, and encouraged the brethren all that was possible, and on leaving felt that a more hopeful feeling existed. This has been fully realized, for since my visit in January seven applications for initiation have been received, and four candidates have been initiated. This has put new life into the lodge and its members, and what a year ago seemed a very hopeless case, has now quite a bright aspect, and the prospects of the lodge seem to be good indeed. All their dues are paid and they own their lodge room, and I see no reason why the lodge should not now prosper.

January 6th, visited Dufferin Lodge, No. 291, Flamboro, accompanied by R. W. Bro. Geo. C. Holden and a number of Hamilton brethren. There were also visitors present from Waterdown, Dundas and Ancaster. W. Bro. Trapp presided in a very efficient manner and conferred the third degree upon a candidate, although he had only been installed ten days prior to my visit. This speaks well indeed for the Worshipful Master of a lodge situated as Dufferin is. The lodge is in a prosperous condition, finances in good shape and no dues outstanding.

January 31st, visited Valley Lodge, No. 100, Dundas, and found the lodge in a very prosperous condition. The lodge room, ante-rooms and banquet room had lately been newly painted and decorated and newly carpeted, and the furniture re-upholstered, and much interest appeared to be taken in the work. A few years ago Valley Lodge was much hampered by having nearly \$400.00 of outstanding dues, but the secretary has been able to reduce the amount down to under \$100.00, and reports only seven brothers owing over twelve months' dues.

March 2nd, visited St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 62, Caledonia, accompanied by R. W. Bro. Geo. C. Holden and W. Bro. W. E. Henderson, of Hamilton. R. W. Bro. J. B. Nixon, of Toronto, was also present, and the Worshipful Master and a large number of members from Harmony Lodge, No. 57, Binbrook.

This was their first meeting held in their lodge room after it had been re-painted and papered, and the brethren of St. Andrew's may justly be proud of their handsome premises. This old lodge is in a fine healthy condition and there is no doubt of its prosperity. The first degree was conferred upon a candidate by the Worshipful Master, and the work was well done.

March 8th, visited Oakville Lodge, No. 400, accompanied by R.W. Bro. Geo. C. Holden, W. Bros. W. E. Henderson, Wm. Birrell, Chas. S. Kilgour and F. Walter, of Hamilton, and the Worshipful Master and some brethren from Dundas. The work of this lodge is well known to be of a very high character, they enjoying the reputation for very correct rendition of our beautiful ritual. The amount of outstanding dues has been very greatly decreased during the past two years, and the financial and other prospects of the lodge are excellent.

March 18th : Visited Doric Lodge, No. 121, Brantford. At this visit we were favored with the presence of R. W. Bro. S. F. Passmore, Grand Senior Warden and a number of other R. W. brethren, members of the Doric Lodge. W. Bro. D. J. Waterous presided and although comparatively new to the chair, conferred the first degree in a very excellent manner. Not only the Worshipful Master, but the officers of the lodge throughout, showed a great amount of care in the manner in which they exemplified the working of the degree. This was my first visit to the Masonic Temple in Brantford, and surely the brethren are to be congratulated upon having one of the handsomest furnished lodge rooms in the Province. A most enjoyable evening was spent with the Brantford brethren.

March 31st : Visited St. George Lodge, No. 243, W. Bro. D. B. Wood, Worshipful Master of Brant Lodge, No. 45, was present, having come over to visit his mother lodge. W. Bro. Dr. F. J. Patten presided and conferred the first degree upon a candidate and also exemplified the second degree. A great deal of interest was manifested in the working of the degrees which showed itself in the magnificent result. A large number of Past Masters were present and the meeting was one of the most enjoyable ones we have attended during the year. St. George Lodge is in a healthy condition and doing good work.

April 12th : Visited Brant Lodge, No. 45, Brantford. On the occasion of my visit there was a very large attendance of the members of the lodge and of visitors, not only from Doric Lodge, No. 121, but from outside places. Among those present were R. W. Bros. G. C. Patterson, P. D. D. G. M., of Toronto, S. F. Passmore, Grand Senior Warden, F. Myles, P. D. D. G. M., of Wilson District, Watt and Dr. Secord and a

number of other Worshipful brethren from Hamilton, St. George, Burford, Scotland and other places. The affairs of the lodge are in a very good condition, the books being well kept, and everything in perfect order. Here again the first degree was conferred upon a candidate, and the work of every officer in the lodge, from the Worshipful Master down to the Inner Guard, was of the highest order, and Brant Lodge is to be congratulated upon having such an excellent staff of officers.

May 2 : Visited Walker Lodge, No. 321, Acton West. The meeting was a very successful one indeed, although a heavy rain-fall prevented a large number of visiting brethren from Milton and Georgetown reaching the village. W. Bro. Dr. Uren and his officers are well skilled in the work. They initiated a candidate in a very commendable manner, and as they were to exemplify the second degree at a Lodge of Instruction to be held in Georgetown on the 6th, they took up that work also and did it excellently. The lodge is to be congratulated upon having W. Bro. W. P. Kenny as secretary. He is a careful and painstaking officer, and has filled the position for eleven years. Amount of outstanding dues very little. Two propositions were received on the night of my visit, and one balloted for besides the one who was initiated. This constitutes a very pleasant outlook for the lodge.

May 5th : Visited St. Clair Lodge, No. 135, Milton. This is one of the neatest lodge rooms in the district and St. Clair Lodge seems to be in a very fair condition. The secretary, W. Bro. Robt. Coates, has his work well in hand. At the time of my visit two candidates were initiated and the work very well done. A very pleasant evening was spent and we adjourned at an early hour as the brethren were to go to Georgetown on the following evening to take part in a Lodge of Instruction.

May 6th : Visited Credit Lodge, No. 219, Georgetown. This is one of our very best lodges and everything pertaining to it seems to be in a very fine condition. This is one of the places where we had arranged to hold a Lodge of Instruction, and I cannot speak too highly of the very excellent entertainment prepared for the visiting brethren by the members of Credit Lodge. Their exemplification of the third degree was of a high order, and the Lodge is to be congratulated upon its staff of officers. This was a very fine closing of my official visits outside of the City of Hamilton.

June 13th : Visited The Barton Lodge, No. 6, Hamilton, and presided at their election of officers. Although the night was very warm and the lodge room anything but comfortable on

account of the heat, yet we had a large gathering and an excellent meeting. W. Bro. J. G. Gauld was in the chair and presided in a very graceful and pleasing manner. The affairs of this old historic lodge are in excellent shape, and no doubt is felt as to its future prosperity. The election of officers showed a great unanimity among the brethren, as the votes were practically unanimous.

June 20th : Visited Doric Lodge, No. 382. As this is my own lodge, and I have been present at every meeting during the year, it was not necessary for me to call upon the Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Chas. Smith, to exemplify the work. It was our annual meeting and I was asked to preside at the election of officers, which resulted in placing the affairs of the lodge in the hands of brethren who will no doubt, give a good account of themselves. A pleasing feature of the visit was the presentation of jewels to several of the Past Masters of the lodge. These two lodges Barton and Doric, together with the other four city lodges work harmoniously together and the Masonic fraternity in Hamilton stand together as one man. Long may such a happy condition of affairs continue.

This closed my official duties excepting the installation of officers which took place on June 24th. I also presided at the installation of officers of four of the city lodges on the 27th of December, and at both of these installations I was ably assisted by many Worshipful and Right Worshipful Brethren from the city lodges.

SEMI-CENTENNIAL OF STRICT OBSERVANCE LODGE, NO. 27.

Among the important Masonic events of the year in this district, was the jubilee celebration of the Lodge of Strict Observance. This occurred on September the 17th, and was an event which will long be remembered by the craft in the city. Most W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada, was present, also Most W. Bro. Hon. J. M. Gibson, Most W. Bro. Hugh Murray, and a large number of Right Worshipful brethren from a distance as well as from Hamilton. R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason read a most interesting historic sketch of the lodge, in the preparation of which he had been ably assisted by R. W. Bro. R. L. Gunn and W. Bro. Wm. C. Morton. The lodge decided to celebrate their jubilee by furnishing a ward in the Jubilee Wing of the City Hospital, which was in course of erection, and therefore, spent their energies in securing the money to accomplish this for which they are to be highly commended. They continued their celebration by a most brilliant "At Home" on the night of the 21st, at which one of the best and most fashionable

gatherings of Masons that has been seen in many a day was present. Long may the Lodge of Strict Observance live and prosper.

I was also privileged to attend the first annual Past Masters' meeting of the Doric Lodge, No. 121, Brantford, which was held on June 30th. This was a Masonic event in the history of the Brantford brethren, and one which they will long remember. Most W. Bro. Wm. Gibson was present, also Most W. Bro. Hugh Murray, and an immense gathering of the Masons of Brantford and the surrounding country. Too much cannot be said in praise of the brethren of the lodge, and especially the Worshipful Master, W. Bro. D. J. Waterous, for the most complete arrangements made for the meeting and for the great success which attended it. I have no doubt that it will be repeated from year to year.

I desire to express my thanks to my Masonic brethren throughout the district for the very cordial reception which I have received everywhere. The kindness of the brethren having been such that my visits to the various lodges will be remembered by me so long as life shall last. I also desire to thank the many brethren from the city, who have assisted me in the discharge of my duties, and trust that my successor may have an equally pleasant time in the discharge of his duties.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

C. VANNORMAN EMORY, D. D. G. M.,
Hamilton District, No. 8.

GEORGIAN DISTRICT, No. 9.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

M. W. SIR AND BRETHREN,

In obedience to the request of the M. W. the Grand Master, M. W. Bro. Hy. Robertson installed me in office as your Deputy for Georgian District, No. 9, at a regular communication of Manito Lodge, No. 90 (my own lodge). Among my first official acts was the opening (assisted by V. W. Bros. Gregory and Wilson and Bro. McDonald), of Nitetis Lodge in the Village of Creemore, which has been working under dispensation, and during the year has added nine members to the original ten, eight by initiation and one by affiliation. I have visited officially all the lodges in my jurisdiction with the exception of Minerva, No. 304, situated at Stroud. I made three separate appointments to go there but was assured each time that no meeting could be obtained. Reference to the reports of my predecessors would indicate, in connection with my experience, that there was something seriously amiss with this lodge.

With this exception the lodges in the district are doing good work, and received your representative with courtesy and kindness, and in accordance with the constitution each contributed their quota towards his expenses.

There were two Masonic trials during the year, resulting in the conviction of the offending brothers. While regretting the necessity for the trials, I was much pleased with the promptness with which these cases were dealt with. The more especially as one of the older and well equipped lodges is in my opinion suffering from its members neglecting to prefer a charge against one of its former members who was as publicly and fully as guilty of unmasonic conduct as he whom Corinthian Lodge recommended the Grand Lodge to expell. The result is that he stands upon the books of his lodge as suspended for non-payment of dues, and the lodge is languishing on account of unfavorable public opinion.

St. George's Lodge, No. 88; North Star Lodge, No. 322, of Owen Sound; Manito, No. 90, of Collingwood; Corinthian, No. 96, and Kerr, No. 230, of Barrie; Pythagoras, No. 137,

of Meaford ; Beaver, No. 234, Clarksburg ; Spry, No. 385, of Beeton, and Manitoba, No. 236, of Cookstown, are pursuing the even tenor of their way, doing good work and requiring no comment.

Georgian Lodge, No. 348, of Penetanguishene, is laboring under the odium of having permitted an unworthy brother to retain his membership, while a near neighbor, Caledonian Lodge, No. 249, of Midland, is flourishing and its members filled with enthusiasm.

Orillia Lodge, No. 192, of Orillia, and Lorne Lodge, No. 277, of Shelburne, have entered upon the occupancy of new lodge rooms, their old homes having been destroyed by fire. Both are very beautiful but I think Orillia can claim the better. They have also entered upon a long period of prosperity to judge from their brightening hopes.

A year ago I was given to understand that Seven Star Lodge, No. 285, of Alliston, and Simcoe Lodge, No. 79, of Bradford, were about to surrender their charters, but both have reconsidered the matter and are having a revival. Simcoe Lodge, where the difficulty seemed greatest, has revived the most and I shall be much disappointed if the material I saw "raised" and which is abundant in the lodge's jurisdiction, does not bring this, the oldest lodge in the district, prominently to the front. While Seven Star Lodge has recently exhibited so true a Masonic spirit in looking after a brother who is ill, the knowledge of which came to me incidentally, that I know there is an awakening, and such seed will bear fruit.

Northern Light Lodge, No. 266, of Stayner : Owing to the opening of Nitetis Lodge, which was originally formed largely out of its membership, is recovering from the blow, and will no doubt fully recover.

Prince Arthur Lodge, No. 333, of Flesherton, while holding its own deserves special mention for the noble and heroic manner its membership have taken hold of and sustained a Past Master of their lodge, who, though a young man, has for eight years, through no fault of his own, been largely dependent upon them for the maintenance of himself and wife, and I trust, Most Worshipful Sir, you will commend his case to the committee on benevolence, that its members may go to the utmost limit in assisting the brethren of Prince Arthur Lodge in their truly Masonic work. Among the deaths occurring in the district were those of M. W. Bro. Spry and Rt. W. Bro. Ingles, so well and favorably known throughout your jurisdiction, that their departure should lead each member of the craft to contemplate his inevitable destiny, and to reflect upon that most important of all human studies—a knowledge of

himself. And as they were careful to perform their allotted tasks while for themselves it was yet day, which of us can doubt that the Lord of Life will enable them to trample the King of Terrors beneath their feet, and lift their eyes to that bright morning star whose rising shall bring them that peace and salvation in the hope of which they lived.

The brethren of Beaver Lodge, Clarksburg, have a day for decorating the graves of deceased brethren, selecting the Sabbath nearest the festival of St. John the Baptist for the purpose, and such a ceremony would seem to blend itself with our peculiar observances, and be worthy of imitation.

I have granted four dispensations, one for the funeral of the late W. Bro. Edmund Bell, of Spry Lodge, No. 385, of Beeton, and three for attendance upon divine worship.

While thanking you, Most W. Sir, for your condescension in confirming my nomination as your Deputy, and the brethren of Georgian District for the nomination, and their kindness and courtesy to me in that capacity, I have the satisfaction of reporting that peace and prosperity reign within the borders of the district, and am able to hope that Masonry has not suffered from my incumbency of the office.

Faithfully and fraternally yours,

GEO. M. AYLSWORTH, D. D. G. M.,

Georgian District, No. 9.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Georgian District, No. 9, from June 21th, 1897, to June 21th, 1898.

| Number of Lodge. | NAME OF LODGE. | LOCATION. | Membership | | E. A. | F. C. | M. M. | Affiliations. | Restorations. | Resignations. | Suspensions, N. P. D. | Suspensions, other causes. | Deceased. | Meetings held. | | | Amount paid for relief. | No. of members in arrears. | Total of all Arreages. | Date of last G. L. Return. | Financial Standing. | Prospects of Lodge. | Can. W. M. work all degrees. | | Insurance. |
|------------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------|----------------|---------------|----------|-------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|--------|------------|
| | | | Increase during year. | Decrease during year. | | | | | | | | | | Regular. | Intermittent. | Total. | | | | | | | Yes | Fully. | |
| 52 | Simcoe | Bandford | 57 | 3 | 5 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 11 | 10 | \$371.88 | 39 | \$371.88 | Dec. '97 | Fair. | Fair. | Yes | Yes | 300 00 | |
| 86 | St. George's | Owen Sound | 91 | 4 | 4 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 2 | 20 | 450 00 | 39 | 450 00 | Dec. '97 | Fair. | Fair. | Yes | Yes | 300 00 | |
| 90 | Manitow | Collingswood | 108 | 15 | 4 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 11 | 5 | 25 | 35 00 | 8 | 52 00 | June '97 | Improvg | Good | Yes | Yes | 150 00 | |
| 96 | Corinthian | Barrie | 131 | 9 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 15 | 57 | 169 75 | 3 | 25 00 | Dec. '97 | Sound. | Excellent | Yes | Yes | 300 00 | |
| 137 | Pythagoras | Meaford | 47 | 5 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 2 | 15 | 5 00 | 1 | 46 50 | Dec. '97 | Fair. | Good. | Yes | Yes | 300 00 | |
| 192 | Orillia | Orillia | 53 | 4 | 3 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 2 | 16 | 51 00 | 10 | 42 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Very good | Yes | Yes | 300 00 | |
| 230 | Kerr | Barrie | 23 | 4 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 3 | 17 | ..... | ..... | 42 00 | June, '98 | Good. | Good | Yes | Yes | 150 00 | |
| 231 | Kenver | Clarksburg | 53 | 3 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 2 | 16 | ..... | ..... | 42 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Very good | Yes | Yes | 300 00 | |
| 236 | Manitoba | Cookstown | 23 | 4 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 3 | 17 | ..... | ..... | 42 00 | June, '98 | Good. | Good | Yes | Yes | 150 00 | |
| 249 | Caladon | Midland | 31 | 4 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 1 | 13 | ..... | ..... | 6 25 | June, '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | Yes | 75 00 | |
| 246 | Nor. Light | Stayner | 18 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 6 | 10 | ..... | ..... | 15 00 | Dec. '97 | Fair. | Fair. | No | No | 75 00 | |
| 255 | Seven Star | Alliston | 31 | 4 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 1 | 13 | ..... | ..... | 6 25 | June, '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | Yes | 75 00 | |
| 301 | Minerva | Stroud | 18 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 6 | 10 | ..... | ..... | 15 00 | Dec. '97 | Fair. | Fair. | No | No | 75 00 | |
| 322 | North Star | Owen Sound | 49 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 2 | 13 | 10 00 | 4 | 31 50 | Dec. '97 | Fair. | Fair. | Yes | Yes | 300 00 | |
| 348 | Georgian | Penetang | 29 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 2 | 13 | 8 00 | | | 31 50 | Dec. '97 | Fair. | Fairly good | Yes | Yes | 400 00 |
| 377 | Leorne | Shelburne | 29 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 2 | 13 | 8 00 | | | 31 50 | June, '98 | Fair. | Fairly good | Yes | Yes | 400 00 |
| 385 | Spry | Beech | 19 | 9 | 9 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 10 | 10 | | | | | | All right. | Good. | Yes | Yes | 200 00 |
| U.D. | Nitidis | Creemore | 35 | 3 | 3 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 10 | 10 | | | | | | All right. | Good. | Yes | Yes | 200 00 |
| 333 | Pt. Arthur | Flesherton | 35 | 3 | 3 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 65 00 | | | 35 00 | June, '97 | Fair. | Fair. | Yes | Yes | 150 00 |

NIAGARA DISTRICT, NO. 10.

To the M. W. the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to present my report on the condition of Masonry in the Niagara District, No. 10, and a record of my acts as the representative of Grand Lodge in the district during the past year.

I duly appointed W. Bro. A. J. Macgregor, P. M. of Temple Lodge, No. 295, St. Catharines, District Secretary, and he has shewn in the discharge of his duties the same zeal and activity which have always marked his connection with the craft.

I have visited all the lodges of the district with but one exception. I had fixed a date for my visit to this lodge, and my failure to do so was attributable to unavoidable circumstances and not to the fault either of the lodge or myself. I am pleased to say that I was received as the representative of Grand Lodge with uniform kindness and courtesy in all the lodges of the district.

THE WORK.

It was my purpose from the inception of my duties to see that the ritualistic and esoteric work of the order as prescribed and sanctioned by Grand Lodge should be strictly observed throughout the district. This was not at all times easy of accomplishment. In some of the lodges I found it difficult to convince brethren that forms and practices which had been followed for many years were in reality innovations, and not the genuine work of the craft. This was the more surprising to me because I was aware of the painstaking and conscientious labors throughout the district of my able predecessor in office, R. W. Bro. Amsden. However, I do not hesitate to say that the work which I have witnessed in many lodges of the district has been to me an agreeable surprise. I have found that the impression which formerly prevailed to so great an extent—that the Master alone was responsible for the proper conferring of a degree—that it rested almost entirely with him whether the ceremony should be a success or a failure—is being gradually dispelled. It is beginning to be understood

how important a part the subordinate officers of a lodge play in the ceremony of a degree, and that inefficient or slovenly work on their part can mar the efforts of the most talented Master. I have seen in many lodges of the district that portion of our ritual assigned to the subordinate officers done with an accuracy, precision, and a careful attention to detail which surprised us. Each officer seemed to be imbued with the thought that it was possible for him to add to the impressiveness of the ceremony, and by his own efforts supplement the skill and ability of the Master. Assistant officers often fail to remember that the ceremony of a degree is impressed upon the mind of him who receives it as a whole, that the details of movement and gesture, of question and answer, which are thoroughly familiar to the officer from long usage, are entirely new to the candidate, and are being seen and heard by him for the first time. First impressions in Masonry, as in many other matters of life, are often ineradicable. The mind of a man entering a Masonic lodge-room for the first time is, to use a common expression, at a tension, is essentially in a receptive state, and has received a definite impression before he can be said to come into the hands of the Master at all. How important it is that that impression, which will probably be of lifelong duration, should be one of respect, and not of contempt or ridicule for the order he is about entering. I have therefore in my visits to the brethren throughout the district endeavored to convince them that there is no unimportant officer in a Masonic lodge, that the humblest in his sphere as well as the highest can by his own exertions add to the effectiveness of the beautiful ritual of our order. I am glad to be able to testify that a steady improvement in ritualistic work is going on throughout the district.

PROGRESS AND CONDITION.

It would afford me much pleasure to be able to report a greater increase in our numbers than is indicated by the statement accompanying my report. There seems to be little doubt that this lack of increase is to be attributed in some measure to the aggressive attitude of the many so-called fraternal societies which overrun the country at the present day. Notwithstanding the undeniable fact that their tenure of existence can be almost mathematically demonstrated, men in all ranks and conditions of life crowd into them, attracted by the delusive promise of benefits entirely out of proportion to what they are asked to pay for them, each one hoping that the critical period in the life of the society will be deferred until his widow and children shall have received the amount stipu-

lated in his contract. An object lesson is now being furnished by the compulsory winding up of one of these alleged fraternal institutions which has had its head office in this district for a number of years, but it is almost too much to hope that the bursting of this bubble like many others which have preceded it in this and other countries will have the effect of diminishing the fatuity of mankind. We are consoled by the thought that our fraternity will still be pursuing its high aims and carrying on its noble work when all these mountains of promise and mole-hills of performance shall have gone glimmering.

In almost every lodge in the district I have found abundant evidence that the brethren demand a high standard of character in those who are admitted to the Order, that the quality and not quantity of the material presented is what they look to, and that they do not hesitate, when necessary, to use the ballot in a condemnatory way. So long as this is the case, so long as neither wealth nor position nor influence alone will secure a man admission to our ranks, our Order will be indestructible.

But the fact that as many good men do not ally themselves with us as we might wish, need not concern us so much as that other insistent fact that so many of those who were our brethren have allowed their connection with the order to be severed. I of course allude to those who have been suspended from our lodges for non-payment of dues. Happily those who are suspended or expelled from our order for grave Masonic offences are so few as hardly to excite remark—so few, that the term “mason” is still as it has always been almost synonymous with an upright character and an honest life, and I can cheerfully certify to the fact that during my term of office no charge has been made in the Niagara District by any Mason or by any lodge against a brother for conduct unbecoming a Mason.

In the notes of my visits to the various lodges in the district I have hardly alluded to the matter of arrearages of dues, because, with two or three exceptions, I would have repeated the monotonous statement of amounts outstanding altogether disproportionate to membership. This state of things must result in the very near future in the suspension of many brethren and a corresponding effort to maintain the normal membership of the lodge.

It behooves us then well and carefully to inquire whether this defection from our ranks cannot be arrested, whether the remedy for this never healing sore in the body of Masonry does not lie in our own hands. It will not be denied, I think, that if the great number of those who were once with us but have become unaffiliated or suspended, were now in our order,

its influence and power for good would be vastly increased. Neither can it be denied that the withdrawal of so many who are known to have been once members of our fraternity exercises a discouraging—I had almost said deterrent—effect upon many good men who might desire to ally themselves with us. I submit then, with all diffidence, that the time has come when rulers of the craft should seriously consider whether it is not possible, even advisable, to do away entirely with the payment of dues in subordinate lodges. In other words, to adopt as a landmark the motto “Once a Mason always a Mason, except for cause.” The whole matter is after all only a question of finance. Let us assume that our Constitution enacts that the fee for making a Mason shall not be less than fifty dollars, and that dues are abolished. I think I am safe in saying that the difference between the proposed fee and the average fee now charged throughout the jurisdiction of Grand Lodge is more than the average amount received for dues from those who become members of the order, and, besides, it would be a present payment. If this be true, to say that the plan is not practicable, having in view the future welfare of the lodges, is simply to argue that in the management of our affairs we are not capable of exercising ordinary business sense and methods. Nor do I think there is any valid reason to suppose that the increased fee would act as a deterrent to those who are minded to come into the order. The man whom the difference in the fee would prevent joining our fraternity is either one whom it would not be in the best interests to admit, or one who could not or would not pay dues after he is admitted.

MASONIC FUNERALS.

There is only one other matter to which I wish to allude because it concerns the opinion in which we are held by the outside world. I refer to the subject of Masonic funerals, and I do this because I have so often noticed on these solemn occasions the meagre attendance of the craft. Our neglect to attend the funeral of a brother is not only a violation of the duty we owe to his memory, but it is also a breach of our duty to the Order we profess to serve. There is no society of men whose public appearances are more rigorously guarded, for only in the case of a Masonic funeral are we permitted to appear in public clothed as masons without a dispensation from the proper authority. The Masonic fraternity, no more than any other human institution, is above public opinion, and it is a reflection upon the Order and calculated to injure it in public esteem when we see, as we do, only too often at the funeral

of a brother a procession of masons entirely disproportionate to the number of the craft.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have issued dispensations to the following lodges: To Ivy Lodge, No. 115, and Macnab Lodge, No. 169, for the purpose of attending divine service. To Copestone Lodge, No. 375, to march in procession for the purpose of attending a concert in aid of a distressed brother.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

Niagara Lodge, No. 2, Niagara-on-the-Lake: I visited Niagara Lodge on 6th April, and was greeted by a large attendance of the brethren. I was accompanied by the W. Masters of the three Craft Lodges in St. Catharines, W. Bros. Merritt, Merriman and Beam. A visit to this lodge is always interesting from the fact that it is the premier lodge on the register of Grand Lodge, and has in its possession probably the oldest warrant of authority under which Masonic work has been done in the present jurisdiction of Grand Lodge. The W. M. W. Bro. Lyall conferred the first degree, and opened and closed the lodge in the other degrees in a very creditable manner, and his principal and subordinate officers are able and efficient. Although there has been but a slight increase in membership during the past year the financial position of the lodge is good. The lodge room is well furnished and appointed, and is owned by the lodge. The average attendance of members has been twenty, and the lodge has met regularly. Since my visit, the lodge has re-elected its officers, and I have no doubt that its affairs are in good hands.

Union Lodge, No. 7, Grimsby: I visited this lodge on the 2nd December. There was a good attendance of the brethren. There being no degree work, I requested the W. M. W. Bro. Lipsitt to open and close in the different degrees, and the manner in which the work was done, not only by the W. M. but by the other officers of the lodge, was highly satisfactory to me. The books of the lodge are well kept, and its financial standing good. A sufficient insurance is carried. The meetings have been regularly held and there has been an average attendance of nineteen; its number remains the same, the lodge having lost three members by death. The existence of this lodge dates from 1799, and it is fortunately in possession of all its minute books. The old minute books of the lodge are a mine of interesting reading to the Masonic historian, and are in the custody of R. W. Bro. Forbes, who still takes an enthusiastic interest in the affairs of Union Lodge.

St. George's Lodge, No. 15, St. Catharines. This being my mother lodge, I have attended several of its meetings during my term of office. The W. M. of the lodge, W. Bro. W. Hamilton Merritt, is a zealous and efficient officer, as are also the other officers of the lodge. The work of all the degrees has been exemplified during the year and a high standard is striven for. The financial condition of the lodge is reported to be sound. There has been no numerical increase, the new members only equal in number those brethren who have been summoned by death. There have been sixteen meetings during the year and an average attendance of thirteen. All of the lodges of St. Catharines meet in the lodge room in the Masonic Temple recently rebuilt. The lodge room and apartments are admirable and are under the direction of a Board of Control composed of members elected by the different lodges, in whom is vested the furniture and property of the lodges, and who have in charge heating, lighting, insurance and other necessary matters, and apportion the expenses among the different bodies interested. This arrangement has been found to work very satisfactorily and does away with the difficulties usually attendant upon the meeting of different lodges in the same room.

Amity Lodge, No. 32, Dunnville: This is the only lodge in the district which I have not visited during my term of office. I had appointed the 11th May for that purpose, but owing to unavoidable circumstances, the visit was not made on that day and I was prevented by important business engagements from attending at the regular meeting of the lodge in June. This was, for me, especially regrettable, by reason of the many warm Masonic friends I have among the members of the lodge, and on account of the reputation which the lodge has throughout the district for a high standard of ritualistic work. I have been assured by R. W. Bro. Amsden that the W. M. W. Bro. Eccles and his assistant officers are capable and efficient and that the lodge is in a prosperous condition. Ten meetings of the lodge have been held during the year with an average attendance of fourteen. The lodge has paid out \$28.00 for relief. Insurance \$100.

St. John's Lodge, No. 35, Cayuga. My visit to this lodge on the 12th May was, for me, one of the most pleasant of the many pleasant incidents which have marked my term of office. There were upwards of seventy brethren in attendance, including visitors from Amity, Enniskillen, Hiram and King Solomon Lodges. With regard to both increase in membership and the enthusiasm of its officers and members, St. John's Lodge may be said to have been the most progressive lodge in the district during my year of office. W. Bro. David

Thompson, M. D., the W. M. of the lodge, was in the chair. The second degree was conferred upon a brother by the W. M., assisted by W. Bros. Carruthers and Hoshal in a very creditable manner. The lodge had work pending in all the degrees and several applications for membership. There has been a substantial increase in membership during the year, and the lodge is in a flourishing condition. The lodge room is ample and well furnished, and is in a block owned by a Masonic Association. There have been fourteen regular and eight emergent meetings during the year, with an average attendance of twenty members. Twelve candidates have been initiated, ten brethren passed and five raised. A pleasant feature of the banquet which followed the work of the lodge, and which was attended by about 100 of the brethren, was the presentation by the members to W. Bro. Thompson, the W. M. of the lodge, of a Past Master's jewel. W. Bro. Thompson has recently removed to Hamilton from Cayuga, and his departure will undoubtedly leave a gap in social and Masonic life in Cayuga which will be hard to fill. Some capital speeches on Masonic subjects were made by R. W. Bro. Amsden, W. Bros. Thompson, Coulter, Rev. Bro. Scudamore and others.

Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 103, St. Catharines: I visited this lodge twice, viz., on the 28th October and the 15th December. On the first occasion, by virtue of a dispensation from the M. W., the Grand Master, I performed the ceremony of healing as an entered apprentice Mason, one who was said to have been a member of a subordinate lodge of the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, the candidate having satisfactorily complied with the necessary condition. The W. M., W. Bro. Merriman, worked the first and third degrees in an impressive manner, and was ably assisted by the other officers of the lodge. My second visit to the lodge was on the occasion of the annual Past Masters' re union, when the chairs of the lodge were filled by its Past Masters. The M. W., the Grand Master of the craft, honored the lodge by a visit on this occasion, and was received by the large assemblage of Masons with the greatest enthusiasm. He made a stirring and eloquent address to the brethren. The work of the evening was the Fellow Craft degree, and was well done by the Past Masters of the lodge. There were about 150 members of the craft present in the lodge-room and at the banquet which followed. This lodge is numerically the strongest in the district. It is in a sound financial condition, and has excellent prospects. It is steadily adding to its membership, and its affairs are in the hands of capable and zealous officers.

St. Mark's Lodge, No. 105, Niagara Falls South : My visit to this lodge took place on the 7th December. There was a good attendance of the brethren. There was work pending in the lodge, but the candidates were not available on the evening of my visit. The W. M., W. Bro. Robertson, opened and closed the lodge in the different degrees in a creditable manner, and the principal and assistant officers seemed to be able and efficient. The annual election of officers took place at this meeting. All of the officers elected are young men, and seemed to me to be capable and zealous. The lodge is reported by the painstaking and efficient secretary, Bro. Hull, to be in a good financial condition. Insurance \$500.

Ivy Lodge, No. 115, Beamsville : I visited this lodge on the 26th December, and was honored by being introduced to the lodge by the M. W., the Grand Master of the craft, he being a member of the lodge, and having been for several years its W. Master. I installed the officers for the year, in which ceremony I was assisted by the M. W., the Grand Master. A happy incident of the evening was the presentation by the M. W., the Grand Master, on behalf of the lodge, to V. W. Bro. Andrew Simpson, for four years W. M. of the lodge, of an address and a Past Master's jewel. The newly installed officers are efficient, and seemed to take a real interest in the work and affairs of the lodge. There have been fourteen meetings held during the year, with an average attendance of twenty-five, and work has been done in all the degrees. There has been an increase in membership, and the financial standing of the lodge is good. This lodge has paid out for relief, during the year, a larger amount than any other lodge in the district. The lodge-room is owned by the lodge, and is beautifully furnished. The lodge-room and furniture are insured for \$1,500.

Merritt Lodge, No. 168, Welland. I visited this lodge on the 2nd May, and was extremely disappointed at the small attendance and the total lack of interest in the affairs of the lodge exhibited by the members. Although the lodge has a membership of sixty-one there were only twelve present. There has been only one initiation in three years. The total arrearages of dues amount to \$132. The lodge has a widows' and orphans' fund, amounting to \$150, but there has been paid out for relief during the year only the sum of two dollars. The financial state of the lodge is reported to be sound. On the occasion of my visit the W. M., W. Bro. Pursel, opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees correctly. I have been informed by some of the brethren that the only remedy which exists for the apathy which prevails not only in this but also in Cope-Stone Lodge, No. 373, the other lodge in the town of

Welland is an amalgamation of the two lodges, and I have strongly recommended that this object be brought about if possible. Since the foregoing was written the lodge-room and furniture of Merritt lodge have been destroyed by fire on the 22nd June. There was an insurance of \$350 on the furniture and contents. The secretary of the lodge has written me that the brethren are now seeking another lodge-room, and hope to have one suitably furnished and equipped before long. It is the intention of the lodge to apply at the ensuing session of Grand Lodge for a new charter to replace the one destroyed by fire. I have written to the secretaries of both Merritt and Cope-Stone Lodges, pressing upon them the advisability of an amalgamation. I shall again allude to this matter in my report as to Cope-Stone Lodge, 373.

Macnab Lodge, No. 169, Port Colborne : I visited Macnab Lodge on the 9th November. Owing to functions and entertainments of a social nature, which required the presence of many of the brethren, the attendance at lodge was not as large as it otherwise would have been. I regretted that the W. M., W. Bro. Augustine was unable to be present. There being no one present who could vouch for me, the brethren very properly examined me, just as they would an ordinary visitor to the lodge. W. Bro. Macrae, P. M., was in the chair, and opened and closed the lodge correctly in the different degrees, there being no degree work before the lodge. The assistant officers seemed to be well up to their work. The lodge has an active and efficient secretary in Bro. John Cook, whose books are thoroughly well kept. There have been fourteen meetings, with an average attendance of ten, and work has been done in all the degrees. Many of the members are mariners, and are of course absent during many months of the year, but notwithstanding this fact, the meetings have been regularly held. The financial position and prospects of the lodge are excellent. Insurance, \$400.

Enniskillen Lodge, No. 185, York ; I visited Enniskillen Lodge on the 4th October, and was greeted by a fair attendance of the brethren. Just before the hour fixed for opening the lodge the W. M., W. Bro S. Davis, M. D., was unfortunately called away by professional duties, and the work of the evening devolved upon V. W. Bro. Wm. Clark, a venerable brother who has given many years to the service of the craft and of Enniskillen Lodge. Considering the fact that he was called upon suddenly, he did the work, which was of the third degree, in a creditable manner, and received excellent support from the other officers of the lodge. Before the lodge was closed, Dr. Davis, the W. M., entered the lodge, assumed the

chair and performed his duties in a capable and efficient manner. The room where the brethren meet is in a building owned by the lodge, is suitably furnished, and is amply insured. The financial state of the lodge was reported to me to be good. I regretted to find that the minutes of the lodge for some time past had been kept in a rough or draft-book, and had not been carried into the regular minute book since November, 1896. However, the W. M. promised to see that the minutes were regularly entered to date, and thereafter properly kept. I had the pleasure of meeting on this visit brethren from Hiram Lodge, Hagersville, and St. John's Lodge, Cayuga, and a very pleasant evening was spent with the brethren of Enniskillen Lodge. Since my visit to this lodge, W. Bro. Rev. C. Scudamore has been elected to the chair of the lodge, and I have no doubt that its progress is assured under his zealous and efficient control.

Mountain Lodge, No. 221, Thorold: My visit to this lodge was on Jan. 5, 1898, and was to me very enjoyable by reason of the large turnout of the brethren, and the undoubted evidence of the truly Masonic spirit which animated them. Two candidates were initiated by the officers who had been installed into office just one week before, and the excellence of their work afforded ample evidence of the care with which they had prepared themselves for the duties they were called upon to perform. I cannot speak too highly of the skill and ability shown by the W. Master, W. Bro. Fraser, not only in the ceremonies of the order but also in the control and direction of his lodge. He and the principal and assistant officers of the lodge are all young men, and are bright and enthusiastic Masons. The books and business matters of the lodge are admirably kept and managed by the efficient secretary, Bro. Wm. T. Fish, who has given his time and abilities to the lodge in that position for more than a quarter of a century. The lodge has increased its membership during the past year. There have been fifteen meetings during the year with an average attendance of eighteen, and work has been done in all the degrees. The financial condition is excellent, and the furniture of the lodge-room, which is one of the finest in the district, is amply insured.

Clifton Lodge, No. 254, Niagara Falls: I visited this lodge on the 7th April, and was most cordially welcomed by a large attendance of the brethren of Clifton Lodge and several visiting brethren from New York State. There was work on the summons for the meeting, but the brother who was to have received the degree was unavoidably absent. However, the W. M., W. Bro. Wood, at my request, exemplified the degree

in a very creditable manner, and received excellent support from the other officers of the lodge. In point of membership this is the second lodge in the district. There has not been any increase during the year, but its prospects are said to be fair and its financial state sound. The lodge-room is well furnished, and the lodge has sufficient insurance. There have been fourteen meetings held, with an average attendance of twenty-two, and work has been done in all the degrees. Much of the success of the lodge and its present stable position are no doubt due to the untiring zeal of R. W. Bro. Bartle, who still takes the most active interest in its affairs.

Seymour Lodge, No. 277, Port Dalhousie: I have made two visits to this lodge, viz., on the 6th of October and at its regular meeting in April last. At my first visit to the lodge there was a small attendance of the brethren. The W. M., W. Bro. Walton, opened and closed in the several degrees. No work has been done for a long period. Between the occasions of my first and second visits a candidate was accepted, initiated and passed, and I attended the regular meeting of the lodge in April for the purpose of witnessing the work of the third degree, which was on the summons for the meeting. The brother did not appear to receive the degree, and there not being a quorum of the members present the lodge was not opened. The books are in a very unsatisfactory state. I was not able to see the minute book of the lodge on either visit. I was informed that the minutes have not been entered in the regular minute book from the rough or draft book for a long time. The books required by sections 126 and 127 of the constitution do not seem to be kept. The secretary reports a membership of thirty-four with no increase or decrease during the year. The arrearages of dues amount to \$187 00. I see no glimmer of hope for the lodge. The only feature which marks its state of torpidity is the increase in the amount of unpaid dues. Its proximity to three craft lodges in the City of St. Catharines and the very restricted field of its influence must inevitably cause a continuance of its present atrophied condition. I venture the opinion that the brethren themselves would hardly object to a surrender of their charter.

Temple Lodge, No. 296, St. Catharines: I visited this lodge on the 4th April, on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of its founding. There were gathered together probably a greater number of Masons than have ever attended a meeting of a private lodge in the district, there being about two hundred present, including representative Masons from all parts of the district. The chairs of the lodge were filled by its Past Masters, the east being held by W. Bro. L. S. Oille, M. D., the first

Master, and still an active and enthusiastic member of the lodge. The lodge and the craft of the city were honored by a visit from the Grand Master M. W. Bro. Gibson, who was heartily received by the brethren and addressed the lodge in fitting and eloquent terms. The beautiful ritual of the first degree was rendered by W. Bro. Oille, and I have never heard it done with finer effect. He received efficient co-operation from the worshipful brethren who occupied the other chairs of the lodge. A pleasant incident of the meeting was the presentation to W. Bro. Oille of an address setting out in eloquent words the services of the worshipful brother to his lodge, accompanied by a fine portrait of himself, which was hung in the lodge room. After the work of the lodge was concluded the brethren adjourned to the beautiful banqueting hall in the second story of the temple where the officers and members of Temple Lodge vied with each other in royally entertaining the assembled brethren. The address of the M. W. the Grand Master in response to the toast of the Grand Lodge, was an admirable one, and listened to by the brethren with the keenest interest. One of the happiest speeches was made by W. Bro. Butler, a visitor from Washington Lodge, Buffalo, N. Y. It dealt largely with the social side of our order and was heartily appreciated and enjoyed by the brethren. Temple Lodge is reported to me to be in a good financial condition, and to have good prospects. It has disbursed considerable money in Masonic relief during the past year. I know that the W. M. W. Bro. C. O. Beam is zealous and efficient and that he has the assistance of capable officers. The lodge has had fourteen meetings with an average attendance of twenty members.

Hiram Lodge, No. 319, Hagersville: I visited Hiram Lodge on the 9th September, and was heartily welcomed by a good turnout of the brethren, notwithstanding the intense heat of the weather. The Fellow Craft degree was conferred by the W. M., W. Bro. McNicol, in a capital manner. I was especially struck by the effective assistance given to the W. M. by the assistant officers in the ceremony of the degree. Although the membership of this lodge is not large, it is reported to me to be in a thriving condition, having made a fair increase during the year, and its finances being in a sound state. There have been fifteen meetings, with an average attendance of eighteen members. Considerable work has been done in all the degrees. Since my visit to the lodge W. Bro. McNicol has been re-elected its W. M., and I entertain no doubts as to the success and prosperity of Hiram Lodge.

King Solomon Lodge, No. 329, Jarvis: My visit to this lodge was made on the 10th September. The weather was

intensely warm, but the brethren turned out in large numbers to welcome me, and there were present several visitors from neighboring lodges. The impressive ritual of the third degree was creditably rendered by W. Bro. Duncan, the Master of the lodge. Since my visit to the lodge it has elected R. W. Bro. James Noble, P. D. D. G. M., to the position of Master. King Solomon Lodge is especially fortunate in having among its members two Masons so well known throughout the Niagara District for skill and ability as R. W. Bro. Noble and R. W. Bro. Jaques, both of whom have represented Grand Lodge in the district in former years, and who continue to take a zealous interest in the affairs of their lodge. The lodge is also fortunate in its secretary, Bro. David Hill, a thoroughly capable and painstaking officer, who has held the position to the advantage of his lodge for many years. His record of the proceedings of the lodge is most minutely kept, and is very interesting. I am informed that the state of the lodge is sound financially, and that its prospects are good. The meetings have been regularly held and well attended.

Myrtle Lodge, No. 337, Port Robinson: My visit to this lodge was made on the 4th January. There was a fair attendance of the brethren considering the small membership of the lodge. The Fellow Craft degree was conferred upon a brother by W. Bro. Norval Hager, the I. P. M. of the lodge. The work was only fairly well done. This is not to be wondered at when we take into consideration the few opportunities the officers have for degree work. The lodge-room is well furnished and appointed, and reflects credit upon the enthusiasm of the brethren. The lodge no doubt suffers from dearth of material owing to its nearness to Welland and Thorold. Too much credit cannot be awarded to W. Bro. Bennett, the present W. M., and W. Bro. Sowersby, the efficient secretary, for their zeal and activity in struggling against hard conditions. The secretary makes no report as to the financial condition of the lodge, and reports its prospects "not very good." There is no insurance. There has been a decrease of three in the membership during the past year.

Dufferin Lodge, No. 338, Wellandport: I visited this lodge 5th October. There was a large attendance of the brethren. The W. M., W. Bro. Gracey, opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees, but both he and his assistant officers seemed to be quite unaware of the fact that they were not working in accordance with the ritual prescribed by Grand Lodge. I found that this was owing to the fact that they had really had no opportunity of making themselves acquainted with the work and ritual sanctioned by Grand Lodge. I have since been in-

formed that the work is now being correctly done, and that the officers are bright and zealous. There has been an increase in membership, and work has been done in all the degrees. There have been eleven meetings held, with an average attendance of ten, and a total membership of twenty-four. The financial standing and prospects of the lodge are reported "good." There is no insurance.

Palmer Lodge, No. 372, Bridgeburg: My visit to this lodge was made on the 14th December. I was agreeably surprised not only at the large attendance of the brethren of the lodge, but also at the presence of many visiting American brethren from the lodges across the river. The Master Mason's degree was conferred by R. W. Bro. Hurrell, the W. M. of the lodge, in an impressive manner. I may say that the work of this lodge, taken as a whole, was the best that I have witnessed in the district. I can hardly fail to concur in the opinion expressed by my predecessor in office, R. W. Bro. Amsden, that Palmer Lodge is probably the best managed lodge in the district. The total arrearages of dues is only \$19. The lodge is very strong financially, having several hundred dollars in the treasury, and expends a considerable amount for Masonic relief. The splendid position of the lodge is doubtless due in great part to the untiring efforts of R. W. Bro. Hurrell and the efficient secretary, W. Bro. John G. Watts. On the occasion of my visit the annual election of officers took place, and the newly elected officers impressed me as being capable and zealous. The lodge has held fourteen meetings during the year, with an average attendance of eighteen, has done work in all the degrees, and has increased its membership. It has an insurance of \$400.

Cope-Stone Lodge, No. 373, Welland: I visited this lodge on the 4th November. There was a fairly good attendance of the brethren. There being no degree work W. Bro. Stewart, the W. M. opened and closed in the several degrees correctly. This lodge heretofore has occupied the same lodge room with Merritt, No. 158, paying rent to Merritt Lodge which was the lessee of the room and owned the furniture and equipment. The report which I have received from the secretary as to the condition of this lodge is not at all satisfactory. For instance, he reports the present membership at thirty-six and admits a total decrease during the year of five, although the total membership as reported to my predecessor, R. W. Bro. Amsden, was only thirty-five. He makes no statement whatever as to the financial standing or prospects of the lodge, yet states that the lodge paid out during the year \$45 00 for relief, relatively a large amount. Twelve meetings for the year are reported

and an average attendance of fourteen. I have already, in my report as to Merritt Lodge, No. 168, suggested the advisability of an amalgamation of the two lodges, if it can be accomplished. The lodge-room in which they met, and its furniture, were destroyed by fire on the 22nd June, 1896, and I have written to the secretaries of both lodges, pressing upon the members the necessity of making an effort to bring about an amalgamation before a new lodge-room and warrants are procured. Many brethren of both lodges have informed me that it would be in the best interests of the craft, for as matters are now neither lodge prospers, and a condition nearly approaching apathy seems to exist.

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion I ask the brethren of the district to believe that I am extremely grateful for the honor done me in July last. What little service I have been able to render the craft has been far more than repaid by the unvarying kindness and sympathy, and the abundant hospitality with which I have been received throughout the district. The many delightful and instructive evenings I have passed with the brethren during my term of office will be amongst the most pleasant reminiscences of my life.

Fraternally submitted,

C. H. CONNOR, D. D. G. M.,
Niagara District, No. 10.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & M. A. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Niagara District, No. 10, from June 24th, 1897, to June 24th, 1898.

| Number of Lodge. | NAME OF LODGE. | LOCATION. | Members. | | Degree's conf'd | | Resurrections. | Resurrections, N. P. D. | Suspensions, other causes. | Deceased. | Meetings held. | | | Average attendance of members. | Amount paid for relief. | No. of members in arrears 12 months. | Total or all Arrearages. | Date of last G. L. Return. | Financial Standing. | Prospects of Lodge. | Can W. M. work all degrees. | Insurance. |
|------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-------|----------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-----------|----------------|----------|------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| | | | Increase during year. | Decrease during year. | E. A. | F. C. | | | | | M. M. | Regular. | Emergency. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Total. |
| 7 | Niagara | Niag. on Lake. | 46 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 0 | 88 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Very fair. | Yes | \$600 00 |
| 15 | Union | Grimsby | 58 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 10 | 0 | 88 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 500 00 |
| 32 | St George's | St. Catharines. | 77 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 40 | 0 | 150 | June '97 | G. od. | Good. | Yes | 100 00 |
| 35 | Anby | Dunnville | 65 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 31 | 0 | 50 | Dec. '97 | Fair. | Good. | Yes | 400 00 |
| 103 | St. John's. | Gayuga | 72 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 20 | 0 | 190 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 250 00 |
| 105 | Maple Leaf | St. Catharines. | 106 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 | 25 | 0 | 232 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Splendid | Yes | 500 00 |
| 115 | St. Mark's. | Niag. Falls S. | 68 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 20 | 0 | 85 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 1500 00 |
| 168 | Ivy | Beausville. | 72 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 13 | 0 | 132 | Dec. '97 | Fair. | Not Good | Yes | 350 00 |
| 169 | Merritt. | Welland. | 61 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 20 | 0 | 21 | Dec. '97 | Fair. | Fair. | No | 400 00 |
| 185 | Muench. | Port Colborne. | 51 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 13 | 0 | 75 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 500 00 |
| 221 | Mountain | York | 29 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 16 | 0 | 21 | Dec. '97 | Fair. | Fair. | No | 900 00 |
| 254 | Clifton | Thorold | 59 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 18 | 0 | 136 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Fair. | Yes | 500 00 |
| 277 | Seven our | Niagara Falls. | 88 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 18 | 0 | 187 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Fair. | Yes | 900 00 |
| 296 | Temple | Port Ballouise | 34 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 22 | 0 | 187 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Fair. | Yes | 300 00 |
| 319 | Huron | St. Catharines. | 58 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 15 | 0 | 186 | June '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 300 00 |
| 329 | K. Solomon | Hagersville. | 34 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 20 | 0 | 34 | June '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 250 00 |
| 337 | Myrtle | Port Robinson. | 45 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 18 | 0 | 71 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 250 00 |
| 338 | Dufferin | Welland | 24 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 17 | 0 | 163 | Dec. '97 | Fair | Good. | Yes | 320 00 |
| 372 | Palmer | Bridgeport | 24 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 7 | 0 | 83 | Dec. '97 | Not Good | Not Good | No | None. |
| 373 | Copetstone. | Welland | 50 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 17 | 0 | 75 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 400 00 |
| 373 | Copetstone. | Welland | 36 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 0 | 90 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 400 00 |

TORONTO DISTRICT, No. 11.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit my report upon the condition of Masonry in the Toronto District during the past year.

GENERAL REMARKS.

In the first place I wish to return my sincere thanks for the honor conferred upon me at the last meeting of Grand Lodge in electing me to this important and responsible office, and to express to the brethren throughout the district my gratefulness for the uniform and kindly treatment accorded to me whilst paying my official visits, a flattering reception being given to me on every occasion.

I visited every lodge in the district once and some of them twice, and in every case have endeavored to fill the responsible position of the representative of the Grand Master in this district to the best of my ability.

Knowing that accuracy and uniformity in the work of our beautiful ritual is most essential, I determined that my efforts should be in that direction, and in my visits endeavored to instruct as far as my own knowledge would permit, which I found was most acceptable to the brethren. I corrected whenever I found it necessary and complimented only where it was deserved.

The harmony that exists among the brethren throughout the district is most gratifying. Another pleasing feature is the exchange of visits between lodges, more especially among the city lodges, which keeps the fire on the altar bright.

I am glad to be able to say that the Masons of the Eleventh Masonic District constitute a body of men who reflect credit on the great institution to which they belong, and are well calculated by their example to promote good citizenship and good fellowship, and although this, the largest district in the Grand Lodge jurisdiction, has for years past been noted for the interest taken by the brethren in Masonic work, and their accuracy in the performance thereof, I believe that at no time

has it attained the efficiency it has during the past year, and I feel assured that with very few exceptions the lodges have selected the proper brethren as officers to perform the work.

THE WORK.

One of my first duties after my election was to select from among the brethren of the district a secretary and a chaplain. As District Secretary I selected Wor. Bro. Harvey J. Gould, the W. M. of Zeredatha Lodge, Uxbridge, who has performed the duties of his office with untiring energy and zeal, and was honored by the brethren in being selected to make the presentation of a beautiful set of regalia to my immediate predecessor, R. W. Bro. Aubrey White, P. D. D. G. M., in King Solomon's lodge on the evening of the 13th of January, A. D. 1898, which he did with credit to himself and honor to the body of which he is a member. As District Chaplain I selected Bro. Rev. W. B. Tucker, of Brock Lodge (Cannington), who, though not called upon to take part in any public gathering, has proved himself to be a true and worthy Mason, ready and willing to perform any duties which may be required of him to the best of his ability. Before entering upon the active duties of my office I issued a circular to each lodge in the district notifying them of my appointment, and calling their attention to certain matters I considered in the interests of Masonry to be observed. The work on the whole is well done and a credit to the brethren entrusted with the performance of the same, only in a very few instances was I disappointed, and in each of these reasonable excuses were made. I may say that in my official visits I did not consider it was my duty to unduly criticise or unduly praise the work of the brethren, but on every occasion I took the opportunity to point out any omissions or inaccuracies which I observed in such a manner as not to give offence, but to encourage the work being done in a uniform manner throughout the district.

I endeavored to notify the brethren in ample time of the date of my official visits, with the result that the attendances at those meetings were on the whole good, and in nearly every instance many visiting brethren were present. The hospitality of the lodges of Toronto District is beyond reproach, everywhere there is good fellowship, good feeling, and a capacity to entertain and be entertained that ought to and does make the brethren feel that companionship and brotherly feeling that cannot be excelled outside of the mystic tie.

DIVISION OF THE DISTRICT.

For some years past there has been an agitation among the

brethren as to the division of the district, and several of my predecessors have made reference to this in their reports to Grand Lodge, some being in favor of a division while others were opposed to it. In 1895 a committee was appointed to enquire into the matter, with instructions to report at the next meeting of Grand Lodge, but when Grand Lodge met in Belleville in 1896 they were not ready to report, and asked for another year, which was granted, but at the meeting in Brantford in 1897 they failed even to appear at the meeting, they were therefore discharged and a new committee appointed. That committee set to work to carry out the object for which they were appointed, and issued a circular to each lodge asking three questions, viz. :

1. Were they in favor of a division ?
2. If so, then they suggested a division.
3. Asking for any other division than that suggested by the committee.

The result was that nearly every lodge was in favor of a division, and thirty-five lodges out of forty were in favor of that suggested by the committee.

I was present at several meetings where this matter was discussed by different lodges, and it was quite apparent that the brethren took considerable interest therein, and I feel satisfied that they all felt anxious to do what they considered best in the interests of the district and Masonry generally.

The committee intend to report to Grand Lodge in accordance with the wish of the majority of the brethren as expressed in the resolutions passed in the different lodges throughout the district, but as this is a matter of grave importance to the district, I have requested the representatives of the district to meet me on the first day of the meeting of Grand Lodge in order to again discuss the matter before the committee make their report.

I feel that the forty lodges comprise too great a care and responsibility for one D. D. G. M., and should occupy more time than he is able to devote to them, and would recommend that a division of some kind be made that would be agreeable to all the lodges concerned, and considered to be for the benefit of Masonry in this district.

LODGE OF INSTRUCTION.

It was my intention to have held two Lodges of Instruction in the district—one in the country and one in the city. I therefore on or about the 23rd day of January, 1898, issued a circular to all the lodges, notifying them that the members of

Zeredatha Lodge, No. 220, Uxbridge, had kindly consented to allow a Lodge of Instruction to be held under their sanction on the evening of the 11th March, and inviting them to attend. It was then the intention of this lodge to remove their lodge room to a more commodious place, but unfortunately they were disappointed in making the necessary arrangements, and I had to postpone the meeting, and ultimately relinquish same altogether. However, St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 16, Toronto, kindly consented to have a meeting on their regular night, to be held on Tuesday, the 14th day of June, and on or about the 16th of May I issued a circular notifying all the lodges in the district that a Lodge of Instruction would be held on that evening in the Temple Buildings, Bay street, Toronto, and this was carried out to my complete satisfaction.

The first degree was exemplified by Wor. Bro. J. E. Hansford, Immediate Past Master, and the officers of St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 16, the Wor. Master being unavoidably absent. The second degree, by Wor. J. C. Leadbetter and the officers of Rising Sun Lodge, No. 129, Aurora, and the third degree by Wor. Bro. E. B. Brown and officers of Ionic Lodge, No. 25, Toronto.

At the commencement I informed the brethren that the object of the meeting was to obtain uniformity of the work in the different lodges and invited them at the completion of the exemplification of each degree to point out any differences which they saw in the work exemplified and that as done in their own lodges, or to ask any questions which they considered would be for the benefit of the order, and I would endeavor to explain and answer same. The result was that several questions were asked and much information given for the benefit of the brethren present.

The work in the several degrees was well done and such conspicuous ability manifested throughout by the various officers that I feel it would be invidious to mention names especially with a view to strict impartiality. A noticeable feature was the intense interest manifested by those present from the beginning to the end, the ceremonies being greatly assisted by excellent music and the choir of St. Andrew's Lodge. It was quite evident that the brethren much appreciated the effort made to exemplify the work for their benefit and no doubt the meeting will have the desired effect.

Although the weather was very warm, which no doubt deterred some brethren from attending, the attendance was large. Nearly every lodge in the city was represented by a number of their officers and members, and there many visitors from outside lodges such as, Zeredatha, Richardson, Markham, Aurora,

Robertson, Thorold, Tuscan, Humber, Stayner, Kerr and others.

After the labors of the evening were over St. Andrew's hospitality was unbounded. Although the hour was late a good time was spent in speeches and song and the brethren parted all delighted with the joyous and profitable time they had on the occasion.

REMOVAL TO THE TEMPLE BUILDING.

During the year ten of the lodges who had formerly met in the premises situated on Toronto Street removed to the Temple Building on the corner of Bay and Richmond Streets, having leased the ninth and tenth floors of that magnificent building for the term of ten years, and I am glad to say that these lodges have now rooms as commodious and comfortable as any on the continent and which reflect credit on the institution of which we are members. As I was present at the first meetings of several of the lodges in their new quarters I was pleased to see that they approved of the action of the Masonic Hall Board of Trustees in making the change, as exemplified by the complimentary resolutions passed by many of them. At several of those meetings M. W. Bro. John Ross Robertson, P. G. M., was present and delivered an address giving to the brethren, among other matters a short sketch of the Masonic lives of several of our Past Grand Masters, whose portraits he had presented at considerable expense to the Masonic Hall Trust for the purpose of decorating the lodge room.

The new rooms were formally opened on the 28th of December, 1897, in the presence of the Hall Trust and the largest assemblage of Past Masters ever collected together in Toronto. It was a truly historic occasion and I am sure must result in benefit to the order.

TIME OF ELECTION.

Several of my predecessors have referred to the inconvenience occasioned by some of the lodges electing their officers in June while others elect in December, so that the D. D. G. M., who is elected in July, is often unable to inspect the work of the officers elected during his term, and in some lodges the work of the same officers is inspected by two D. D. G. M's. during the year while not infrequently a set of lodge officers will pass through their term uninspected, and yet the D. D. G. M. will have made the official visit required of him. The remedy for this lies with the Grand Lodge. If it were so provided that every lodge elected their officers in May and installed in June they would then be contemporary with D. D. G. M

and if the latter did his whole duty there could not possibly be a gap or blemish in the annual inspections.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have granted a number of dispensations during the year, chiefly for attendance at divine worship in regalia, returns respecting which have been made to the Grand Secretary.

EXPENSES OF THE D. D. G. M.

Notwithstanding that the constitution requires that private lodges in each district shall defray the travelling expenses of the D. D. G. M., still I am sorry to say several of the lodges have overlooked this clause. I would desire to impress upon the brethren that while the honor of being D. D. G. M. of this district is great still much valuable time is expended by any brother holding that office, and expense connected therewith is for him considerable.

OFFICIAL VISITS.

St. Andrew's Lodge, No. 16, Toronto: I visited this lodge on two occasions during my term of office, first on the 14th day of December 1897, which was the night of the installation of its officers, when I was accompanied by R. W. Bro. C. F. Farwell, D. D. G. M. of Algoma District. The installation ceremony was performed by R. W. Bro. W. C. Wilkinson, assisted by R. W. Bros. George Tait and William Roaf, and W. Bros. J. E. Hansford, C. E. Edmonds, James Glanville and John Pearson, in a manner creditable to the brethren who took part. There was a large attendance of brethren and visitors present, it being a very important meeting of this the oldest lodge in the district, being the last meeting to be held by them in a lodge-room in which they had been wont to meet for upwards of forty years. The newly installed Master, W. Bro. F. M. Bell-Smith, in a neat speech in the name of the lodge, presented the retiring W. M., W. Bro. J. E. Hansford, with a Past Master's jewel as a token of the esteem in which he was held by the brethren, and of their appreciation of the able manner in which he had ruled the lodge during his term of office. W. Bro. Hansford made a suitable reply for the honor conferred on him. The work of opening and closing the lodge in the three degrees, and the installation ceremony, was well done. The books of the lodge are models, kept correctly and with great neatness and accuracy, and reflects the greatest credit on the secretary, W. Bro. J. T. Slater. I visited this lodge again on the 12th day of April, when there was a very large attendance, not only of the brethren of the lodge,

but of visiting brethren, among others being R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, R. W. Bros. Aubrey White, Geo. Tait, W. Roaf, Benj. Allan and W. C. Wilkinson. I found the lodge in a high state of efficiency under their perfectly skilled Master, W. Bro. F. M. Bell-Smith. There were two initiations on this occasion, and the work was faultless, every officer doing his part well, and if the ceremony could be made more interesting it was in the initiation of Mr. John Shaw, the Mayor of the city of Toronto, when the offices were filled by several of the city Aldermen, such as R. W. Bro. W. Roaf, W. Bros. W. B. McMurrich, Bro. E. Hanlan, Bro. Score and others. The lecture by the Junior Warden, Rev. Bro. Dr. Reynar, being especially well done. After the lodge closed we retired to the refreshment table, and as the hospitality of this lodge is well known I need say little except that, like all my predecessors, I was right royally entertained, and a pleasant time was spent in speeches and songs, in which R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, D. D. G. M., Bro. Mayor Shaw, W. Bros. Brown, Vicars and others took part. On the 29th of March this lodge celebrated its 75th anniversary, and in its age it is as strong, charitable and hospitable as in its palmiest youth. A large number of the brethren were present on this occasion, including the M. W. Grand Master and many Grand Lodge officers. However, during the past year death has visited the lodge, and some of its members, among other, W. Bro. John Linton, Bros. Robert Hall, Servetus Bispham and Rev. Dr. Barrass, have passed over to the Grand Lodge above, there to reign for ever and ever. I cannot close my report of this lodge without once more thanking the officers and brethren for their kindness in allowing the Lodge of Instruction to be held in their lodge-room, and for their hospitality and the active part which they took in exemplifying the work on that occasion.

King Solomon's Lodge, No. 22, Toronto: This lodge this year attained its 51st year since formation, and on the occasion of its anniversary its talented Master, W. Bro. W. W. Vicars, presented an address on Masonry, one of the best I have ever read. I may say there are few members in the district who take more interest in masonry than the W. M. of King Solomon's Lodge. In nearly every occasion in which I have met with him in visiting other lodges he has shown that he has "Masonry at heart," and has read considerably regarding its mysteries. I feel satisfied that under his rule this lodge will continue to prosper. On the occasion of my visit on the 13th of January, it being their first meeting in the new hall, there was a large attendance of visiting brethren from the city lodges, also a number from Zeredatha Lodge, and distinguished

brethren including among others W. M. Bro. John Ross Robertson, P. G. M. · M. W. Bro. Kivas Tully, P. G. M ; R. W. Bro. A. A. Ardagh, G. J. W.; R. W. Bro. Geo. Bennett, P. D. D. G. M.; R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf, P. D. D. G. M., and R. W. Bro. Benj. Allen, P. G. S. W. An interesting address was given by M. W. Bro. John Ross Robertson, P. G. M., on the lives of some of our Past Masters, in his usual style, showing how thoroughly posted he is in the history of masonry and the distinguished brethren connected therewith, after which a beautiful set of regalia was presented to Past D. D. G. M. R. W. Bro. Ambrey White, the presentation being made in the name of the Committee by W. Bro. H. J. Gould, of Zeredatha Lodge, in a suitable and pleasant speech, and the recipient spoke in a happy manner thanking the brethren for the same. The work is well done in this lodge, and W. Bro. Vicars is a very careful, painstaking and correct worker, a good presiding officer, and has the entire confidence of the members. His officers are well up in their respective duties. The books are well kept, neat and legible, and are a credit to the Secretary, Bro. Theo. A. Lyon. It is a delight and a pleasure for any D. D. G. M. to visit King Solomon Lodge.

Richmond Lodge, No. 23, Richmond Hill: I visited this lodge on Monday evening, the 2nd day of May, 1898, at its regular meeting. I had looked forward to my visit with Richmond with a great deal of pleasure, as I had already met the W. M. and some of his officers in my visits to other lodges, and from information received I expected to see the work well done, in which I was not disappointed. There were a number of visiting brethren present from Rising Sun Lodge, (Aurora), Vaughan Lodge (Maple), Robertson Lodge (King City), and Stevenson Lodge (Toronto). Wor. Bro. T. H. Trench, W. M., conferred the third degree upon Bro. Dr. Hutchison, assisted by Wor. Bro. Ratcliff, of Rising Sun Lodge, Wor. Bro. Crossley, of Robertson Lodge, and Wor. Bro. Sisley, of Vaughan Lodge. I was well pleased with the manner in which the work was done, and too much praise cannot be given to Wor. Bro. Trench for the accurate manner in which he performed the duties of his office. The work by all the officers was well done, and would be difficult to surpass. The lodge is in a prosperous condition financially, owning the hall in which they meet; they are enjoying perfect harmony, having good material, and their future prospects are most encouraging. The books of the secretary and treasurer are well and carefully kept, and there are very few brethren in arrears for dues. After the lodge closed we repaired to the Dominion House, where mine host, Bro. Ellston, had prepared a most sumptuous repast, the

dining hall and tables were most tastefully decorated, and something to be long remembered. A most enjoyable time was spent in songs and speeches before the termination of a very pleasant visit.

Ionic Lodge, No. 25, Toronto : I visited this lodge on Tuesday evening, the 4th of January, 1898, and received a pleasant welcome, being known personally perhaps to more of the brethren of this lodge than any other lodge in the district, it being pre-eminently the lodge of professions in Toronto, many of its members belonging to the same profession to which I have the honor to belong, and therefore I had met them frequently. Wor. Bro. E. B. Brown is a genial good fellow, well up in his work, and giving it so accurately that there is no room for criticism ; he is ably assisted by his officers, all of whom are men of education and ability. On the occasion of my visit there was a large attendance of both members of the lodge and visiting brethren, all of whom were well pleased with the work of initiation done by Wor. Bro. Brown and his officers. I very much regretted that before the lodge closed I was called away to attend my legislative duties and did not hear the rendering of the lecture by the Junior Warden, and giving of the charges. However, I was so much impressed with the accurate and careful manner of the work, and the way in which it was performed, that I afterwards invited Wor. Bro. Brown and his officers to exemplify the work in the third degree at the Lodge of Instruction, which they kindly did to the satisfaction and profit of all brethren present on that occasion. I must congratulate Ionic Lodge upon the selection of its officers. I must say that I never saw the work better done than it was on that occasion. The books of the lodge are well kept, and there is nothing wanting to make this lodge successful and prosperous.

Vaughan Lodge, No. 54, Maple : I visited this lodge on Tuesday evening, May 3rd, 1898, having already met the W. M. W. Bro. J. T. Saigeon and several of his officers at other lodges which I had visited. There were several visiting brethren present from Robertson Lodge and Richmond Lodge. I am sorry that there have not been any initiations in this lodge during the past year, as the lodge has every appearance of being in a prosperous condition, and the work of opening and closing in the three degrees, which I requested to be done, was well done, and I feel satisfied the degree work would be equally so if opportunity were granted to the W. M. and his officers. Vaughan Lodge was started in the year 1854 under the Grand Register of Ireland, since which time until the past year its history has been one of progress and prosperity. The

hall is owned by the lodge, and free from debt and tastefully furnished. On the walls of the lodge room may be seen a painting of its first Worshipful Master, W. Bro. James Woods, and a frame containing four receipts with stamps from Dublin, Ireland. A large invoice book contains all important letters and documents from the year 1854 to the present time very tastefully arranged. Although the lodge is at a stand still for the present year, yet it had a glorious past, and the future may be brighter than the present outlook. W. Bro. Dr. Sisley is a very efficient secretary, keeps his books well, and takes a great interest in the welfare of the lodge. Death has also visited them during the past year. Their Junior Warden Bro. John Hanna was laid at rest on the 10th of December, 1807, a large attendance of brethren being present from surrounding lodges, Bro. Thomas Townsend having gone before him to the Grand Lodge above on the 10th of October, 1897. At the close of the lodge the brethren repaired to the dining hall, where a sumptuous repast awaited them to which all did ample justice, and afterwards indulged in bright and witty speeches and songs, ending the proceedings which were enjoyed by all with "Auld Lang Syne."

Rehoboam Lodge, No. 65, Toronto : I visited this lodge on Thursday evening the 6th of January 1898, when there was a large attendance of visiting brethren from the other city lodges, among the distinguished brethren present were M. W. Bro. John Ross Robertson P. G. M., R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone D. G. M., R. W. Bro. A. A. S. Ardagh G. J. W., R. W. Bro. Rd. Dinnis P. D. D. G. M. and V. W. Bro. J. McKnight A. G. S. and I was pleased to meet with W. Bro. F. W. Unitt whom I had been with on many an occasion in the Grand Lodge of A. O. U. W. Before proceeding to work M. W. Bro. John Ross Robertson entertained the brethren with his pleasing and historic address upon the lives of several of the Past Grand Masters of the craft which was both interesting and beneficial to the brethren. The newly elected officers were installed by V. W. Bro. Francis Gallow assisted by R. W. Bro. Dinnis, R. W. Bro. A. A. S. Ardagh, W. Bros. J. F. Grierson, Graham, Park and McBean in a most satisfactory manner. A pleasing part was the presentation of a Past Masters Jewel to W. Bro. C. W. Mortimer I. P. M. by the newly installed Master W. Bro. J. McCurrah. The closing in the several degrees was well and accurately done by the W. M. This lodge is in a healthy and vigorous state with good officers in all the chairs. Its work is first class and its hospitality generous. Its books are accurately and neatly kept and I was pleased with my visit.

St. John's Lodge, No. 75, Toronto : I visited this lodge on

Monday, April 4th, 1898, when there was a good attendance; many visiting brethren being present from Ionic, Ashlar, Wilson and other lodges. I was pleased to meet with that old and estimable Mason, V. W. Bro. Steiner, who advised me that he had been a member of the lodge for upwards of forty years, and during all that time he had never missed a meeting if he was in the city. This would be a good example for many of our younger brethren to follow. Two candidates were initiated, and I was pleased with the manner in which W. Bro. Spencer Love and his officers performed the work, and must especially mention the excellent manner in which the Junior Warden, Bro. M. Leverty, delivered his impressive and instructive lecture. Seldom have I heard it better done. The working tools were presented by W. Bro. Brown, of Ionic Lodge. The effect of the work was very much enhanced by the excellent choir which the lodge possesses. The finances and general standing of the lodge are in a good sound condition. The lodge is prosperous, and is to be congratulated on having such a bright set of officers. The hospitality of the lodge is well known and always enjoyed. The future of St. John's lodge promises to be a bright one.

Wilson Lodge, No. 86, Toronto: I visited this lodge on Tuesday evening, the 19th April, 1898. The night was a very wet one, and many brethren who intended being present were detained, but there was notwithstanding a large attendance. The W. M. and a number of brethren from Alpha Lodge and other visiting brethren were present. This lodge is in a flourishing condition. I was well satisfied with the work of W. Bro. E. M. Charlton and his officers. I had the pleasure of seeing one initiation, and Bros. Williams and Darlington passed to the second degree. The work was done by the W. M. and officers of the lodge in a most excellent and accurate manner, the lectures by the Wardens being especially well done. The secretary's books are well kept. At the refreshment board an unusually happy time was spent, the good fellowship existing between the members of Wilson Lodge and the visiting brethren being very marked. The lodge, both financially and otherwise is in a good condition.

Markham Union Lodge, No 87, Markham: I visited this lodge on the 3rd day of December 1897, accompanied by my District Secretary W. Bro. H. J. Gould and twelve of the officers and members of Zeredatha Lodge. There were not many of the brethren present in fact the average attendance for the year is very small. In a membership of thirty three the average attendance is only nine. They have good material in the lodge and I urged upon the brethren to endeavor to be more

regular and punctual in their attendance. Of course several of the members live many miles distant from the lodge room and it is often impossible for them to attend. On the occasion of my visit besides the visiting brethren from Zeredatha Lodge there were several brethren from Brougham Union and Richardson lodge. We had a very pleasant evening. There was however no degree work to be done. I therefore requested the W. M. to open and close in the different degrees which he did fairly well. The J. W. Bro. Jonathan B. Gould delivered his lecture in an excellent and accurate manner and one would have to travel far to see it done better. The Senior Warden at my request also delivered his lecture which was well done. The trouble with this lodge is want of opportunity to work and I feel satisfied from what I saw that the officers are capable of performing their duties well. I was pleased to meet with R. W. Bro. G. R. Vanzant who takes great interest in the work and is a power of strength to his lodge. After the lodge closed we adjourned to the Franklin House where we partook of the hospitality of the lodge and a couple of hours were spent in speeches and songs to the enjoyment of all present.

Sharon Lodge, No. 97, Sharon : I visited this lodge at High Twelve on St. John's day, December 27th, 1897, for the purpose of being present at the installation of the newly elected officers, and I was accompanied by W. Bros. Hardy, Card, Thompson, Anderson, Johnston and other officers and brethren of Zeredatha Lodge (Uxbridge). The day was fine, the sleighing beautiful, and we enjoyed the drive very much. Several brethren from Tuscan Lodge (New Market), and Richmond Lodge were also present. W. Bro. Thomas Hardy installed the officers, assisted by R. W. Bro. Brunton, W. Bro. Taylor, and others. This lodge is not progressing as I would like to see. They have had only one initiation this year, and more suspensions. There is good material, and the work as far as I saw done by the Master and officers was fair. The Secretary's books are a model of neatness and beautifully kept, Bro Pearson being a splendid officer and having the interests of the lodge at heart. I only wish that there were more like him. After labor we were most hospitably entertained by the brethren of Sharon Lodge. The dues are well paid up thanks to the secretary and some of the officers of the lodge and I have good reason to believe that the lodge is now in a good position to show good work in the near future.

True Blue Lodge, No. 98, Bolton : I had intended to visit this lodge on the 5th of May, 1898, and requested the W. M. to call an emergent meeting for that purpose which he kindly did, but after reaching Bolton on that date and having seen

the W. M. and some of the brethren and before the hour of meeting I received a telegram to return home on important business, I was therefore forced to do so, and as I understood very few of the brethren were likely to be present I did not regret it as I would otherwise have done. I promised however to return at an early date which I did on Wednesday evening, 15th June, 1898, but was very sorry to find very few brethren present. A number of the brethren reside at considerable distance from the lodge room and being farmers and busy with their work at this season of the year their absence could be reasonably excused. The W. M. and officers at my request performed the work in the second degree and opened and closed in the three degrees, but owing to the absence of several of the officers and there not having been any candidates this year the work was not done as I would have desired. I pointed out several matters to the brethren which should be improved on, and as those officers present appeared to be very anxious to do the work correctly I feel satisfied my visit will result in much benefit to the lodge. W. Bro. Leavens is a very enthusiastic Mason and if he had an opportunity I know that he would perform the work well. The lodge room is beautiful and everything denotes prosperity. It is owned, together with the furniture, by the lodge and all paid for, and I hope all the brethren will work together with that harmony that characterizes good Masons. The books are well kept by the secretary who is one of the pillars of the lodge, and I look forward to True Blue Lodge in the near future taking that stand among the other lodges of this district to which she is justly entitled. After the labors of the evening the brethren kindly entertained me and were able to show that their hospitality could not be exceeded by any other lodge in the district. I am so fully impressed that True Blue Lodge should have a larger membership that I hope my successor will visit this lodge as early as possible after his appointment and encourage these brethren.

Tuscan Lodge, No. 99, Newmarket: I visited this lodge on the 10th day of November, 1897. The roads were very bad. I was accompanied by V. W. Bro. George Thompson, Grand Sword Bearer, and Bro. C. H. Nix, of Zeredatha Lodge. There were present also several visiting brethren from Bradford, Aurora, Richmond Hill and Bolton. I had the pleasure of seeing W. M. Bro. Ross and his officers doing their first initiation, and I must say the work was well done. Tuscan Lodge must be congratulated upon having selected such excellent officers. I was very much impressed by the manner in which the J. W., Bro. Brunton, delivered his lecture. I then thought it

was the best I ever heard, and although I have visited many lodges since, I cannot name any Junior Warden who has excelled him. This lodge, although not increasing in numbers as rapidly as I would desire, has excellent material, and when I say that this is the home of R. W. Bro. T. H. Brunton, P. D. D. G. M., who is a pillar in this lodge, I feel satisfied I need say no more. I can say, without any insinuation derogatory to any other brother in the district, that there is not a brother who has the welfare of our noble institution more at heart than brother Brunton. The present W. M., T. H. Lloyd, is personally known to me for many years. On the occasion of my visit he was Senior Warden and did well. I feel satisfied that Tuscan Lodge is safe in his hands. I may say that this was not my first visit to Tuscan Lodge, neither was it the first time I saw them exemplify the fourth degree, and while I have reported above that they do the work well in the lodge-room they cannot be excelled in the ante-room. We all had a pleasant evening, and I have no fear as to the prosperity of Tuscan Lodge.

Union Lodge, No. 118, Schomberg: I visited this lodge on the evening of the 30th day of May 1898. I am sorry that this lodge is the most difficult in the district for the D. D. G. M. to visit. Living where I do it took a large portion of three days to have the pleasure of meeting the brethren of this lodge. After reaching Aurora I was very much pleased to have the company of W. Bros. Leadbetter and Radcliff for the remainder of the distance some 14 miles. These brethren, to whom I will refer hereafter in my report, are most enthusiastic Masons. I only wish we had many more like them. Their motto is "Masonry first and everything after." The attendance was not large, many of the brethren living a considerable distance from the lodge room no doubt were unable to attend. I must say that the brethren who were present "are Masons," but for some time past they have not had much new material. These members pay their dues, discharge their obligations to the Grand Lodge and thereby preserve their charter, but do not increase in numbers as rapidly as might be expected. This no doubt is not their fault, still a D. D. G. M. must take some notice as to the increase in membership. On the occasion of my visit it happened to be the night of the election of officers, and seldom have I seen a more unanimous choice in any lodge. The work of opening and closing was very well done and I must in my report refer to W. Bro. Dr. Brereton, even if, should appear singling him out for praise. He is secretary of the lodge, his books are well kept; he has filled the post of secretary for several years, but it is in the interest he shows in the welfare of this

lodge I desire particularly to refer. I feel satisfied with such brethren as W. Bro. Dr. Brereton and the present officers of this lodge having the opportunities that many of the other lodges have in the district, that the membership of Union Lodge No. 118 would soon be largely increased. I was most cordially treated by the brethren; their hospitality is unsurpassed and I feel that my visit was of mutual benefit and pleasure and an occasion long to be remembered.

Rising Sun Lodge, No. 129, Aurora: I visited this lodge on the 1st day of April, 1898, where I met R. W. Bro. T. H. Brunton, P. D. D. G. M., and a large number of the brethren from Tuscan Lodge, Newmarket, also W. Bro. Crossley and a large number from Robertson Lodge. This lodge is in a most prosperous condition. They have one of the finest lodge rooms in the district outside of the city. The secretary W. Bro. Radcliffe, keeps the books neatly and correctly, and the furnishings of the lodge room are good, the hospitality of the brethren unbounded and the general outlook satisfactory. It is well ruled over by W. Bro. J. C. Leadbetter, who takes a great interest in his work and is nobly assisted by his officers. I had the pleasure of seeing their work in the second degree; the work was performed correctly and impressively and delighted myself and the large number present. So favorably impressed was I with the accurate manner in which the work was performed that I afterwards requested W. Bro. Leadbetter and his officers to exemplify the second degree at the Lodge of Instruction, which they kindly did in a most satisfactory manner. I am informed by their energetic secretary, W. Bro. Radcliffe, that although at the time he was elected secretary there was a large amount in arrears for dues that he has by his untiring zeal collected in nearly all. Such men as Bro. Radcliffe are an honor to any lodge. This lodge has had a great career and is not deteriorating but is strong and active in the work. After the lodge closed we sat down to an elaborate banquet after which an excellent programme of speeches and singing took place. All the visitors were delighted with their reception and went home satisfied with the courtesy and hospitality they had received.

Richardson Lodge, No. 136, Stouffville: I visited this lodge with a number of brethren from Zeredatha Lodge on the evening of the 8th of December, 1897. There was a fair attendance of the members present, also a number of visiting brethren from Markham Union. This lodge for years was not as prosperous as could be desired. A number of brethren from Toronto attended for some time, but seem now to have withdrawn. The lodge, however, is in a more prosperous condi-

tion, and, under the rule of W. Bro. Stark, I have no doubt there are bright days in the future for it. The secretary, Bro. Hand, keeps the books neatly and accurately. There being no degree work, at my request, the W. M. opened and closed in the several degrees, and the work was well and correctly done. With a few candidates Richardson Lodge will soon take its stand among the leading country lodges. The hospitality of the brethren of this lodge is unbounded, and the banquet prepared by Bro. Miller could not be surpassed. It is not the first time I have partaken of the hospitality of Richardson Lodge, and I look forward to the pleasure of being again with them in the near future. I wish their lodge every success.

York Lodge, No. 156, Eglinton: I visited this lodge on the 17th December, 1897. The evening was stormy and the attendance small. I was accompanied by R. W. Bro. Benj. Allen, P. G. S. W. The newly elected officers were installed by R. W. Bro. Fisher, assisted by R. W. Bro. Benj. Allen and W. Bro. Norris. The work was done well. This lodge, however, is not progressing as I would like to see. The number of members is less this year than last, and the number of initiations are few. I think something should be done by the city lodges by way of assisting this lodge; there is good material among the officers and members, and when they have an opportunity they do good work, and well, and correctly. I would also urge on the secretary to see that dues are promptly collected. I was sorry to learn there were so many in arrears, many being over four years in arrears. Brethren cannot expect their lodge to prosper unless the dues are paid. I hope my successor will be able to devise some means for the prosperity of this lodge.

Stevenson Lodge, No. 218, Toronto: I visited this lodge on the 10th day of January, 1898, accompanied by R. W. Bro. C. F. Farwell, D. D. G. M., of Algoma District. It was their first meeting in their new hall, and there was a large attendance of brethren of the lodge, and also visiting brethren from the city lodges. Among the distinguished brethren present was M. W. Bro. John Ross Robertson, who addressed the lodge on behalf of the Hall Trust, and spoke at length on the history of the Masonic order in Canada, after which the lodge unanimously passed the following resolution:

“That the thanks of this lodge be tendered to the M. W. Bro. Robertson for the able address this evening and more particularly for his visits to this lodge. We appreciate the honor of being favored with the presence of such an eminent and distinguished brother whose Masonic knowledge and deeds of benevolence are not surpassed, and further that this resolution be spread on the minutes of the lodge and a copy engrossed and presented to the M. W. Brother as a slight token of the esteem in which he is held by the members of Stevenson Lodge.”

I place this resolution in full as I cannot more fully set out my own feelings as to what M. W. Bro. Robertson has done and is doing for the craft in Canada. I had the pleasure of witnessing one initiation and five brethren passed to the second degree, and seldom have I seen the work better done than it was by W. Bro. Wilson and his officers. Stevenson Lodge is prosperous, their work well done and their future prospects are bright. In Bro. Jackson Little they have a good secretary, his books are models of neatness. Their hospitality is unbounded. I enjoyed my visit well.

Zeredatha Lodge, No. 220, Uxbridge: This being my own lodge I wish to say my first official visit as D. D. G. M. was to my Masonic home where I have received so many kindnesses at the hands of my brethren. I therefore visited this lodge officially on the evening of the 4th of October 1897. I had invited R. W. Bro. H. A. Collins P. D. D. G. M. to be present as he is held in very high estimation by the brethren of Zeredatha Lodge and there is no person that the brethren of Zeredatha Lodge would rather have spend an evening with them than R. W. Bro. Harry Collins but unfortunately he was unable to attend. Although I do not desire to unduly praise this lodge, I may say that for years it has been considered by my predecessors one of the best rural lodges in the district and I cannot disagree with them. On the occasion of my visit the third degree was performed by W. M. Bro. H. J. Gould and his officers and I had very little fault to find. The officers have for years endeavored to be accurate in their work in every detail and only brethren who will devote their time and ability to perform the duties of their office are elected thereto. It has often been remarked that in no other lodge are the Past Masters more regular in their attendance than in Zeredatha. The work is well done on every occasion and the lodge is in a prosperous condition. I again officially visited this lodge on St. John's night the 27th day of December 1897, when the newly elected officers were installed, and I hope Zeredatha will continue to prosper in the future as it has done in the past. As to the secretary and treasurer no better officers for these positions could be elected than Bros. John Vicars and Thomas Boyd; long may they continue to hold these positions with credit to themselves and an honor to the lodge. This is also the home of V. W. Bro. Geo. Thompson the Grand Sword Bearer, and a more genial and popular brother does not reside in the district. I had selected this my own lodge to have the honor of having the first Lodge of Instruction held under their sanction, but am sorry that some of the prominent brethren could not make the necessary arrangements to have that carried out.

Ionic Lodge, No. 229, Brampton: I visited this lodge on the 18th day of January, 1898. I found it in good working order although there were not many present. The secretary's books are a model of neatness. V. W. Bro. Morton has been the secretary for years, and there is no secretary in the district who tries to perform his duties better than Bro. Morton. There not being any degree work I requested the W. M. and the brethren to open and close in the three degrees, which they did to my entire satisfaction. This lodge like many others suffers on account of not having sufficient work to do. I was very sorry that my old friend, Bro. John Smith, M. P. P., was not able to be present on account of an accident he sustained a few days before, but I called upon him at his residence after the lodge closed and found him recovering rapidly from the effects of same.

Ashlar Lodge, No. 247, Toronto: I visited this lodge on the 26th day of April, 1898. There was a large attendance of brethren and many visitors from the different city lodges present. I was well pleased with the work done; the lodge is in a good financial condition. I had the pleasure of seeing Bro. Watts initiated by W. Bro. O'Hara, and too much praise cannot be given to this brother for the accurate manner in which he performed his duties, and he was ably assisted by his officers. The membership of the lodge has been largely increased during the past year. Ashlar is a model for other lodges to follow their example. The lecture of the J. W. Bro. A. F. Webster was especially well done. The books of the secretary, Bro. A. Y. Scott, are models for neatness and accuracy. I can simply say that Ashlar Lodge is doing well, and its officers and members are a credit to masonry. I only wish I felt as well satisfied with all the lodges in the district as I do with Ashlar. Not only is their work well done in the lodge room, but their hospitality is unbounded. Seldom have I spent a more pleasant and profitable evening than I did with W. Bro. O'Hara and the members of his lodge.

Patterson Lodge, No. 265, Thornhill: I visited this lodge on the 31st day of March, 1898. The attendance was small, and the brethren were very late in arriving at the meeting. Nothing annoys me more than to find the brethren not being punctual in their attendance; however, in this case there may have been good excuses for their absence, as many of the brethren live long distances away from the lodge room. I understand there has been only one initiation in three years in this lodge. I am sorry such is the case and feel satisfied that it is the fault of the brethren otherwise I might report differently. W. Bro. Steele is an active brother, accurate and ener-

getic in his work, but there are some to blame for the position in which this lodge stands. I cannot blame Bro. Steele, as I consider him one of the most enthusiastic brethren in the district, but according to my opinion he has not the assistance he deserves. I was pleased to witness the initiation of two brethren, Bros. Devilen and Drewry, and only hope the lodge may prosper far better during the balance of the year than they have done in the past. There are many of the brethren who have the work well up but there are others who have not. The Secretary, Bro. G. A. Langstaff, keeps his books well, they are neat and accurate, and I only wish there were more brethren in this lodge like him. I do not like to make complaint against a lodge, but I was not pleased with the work of Patterson Lodge. I hope my successor may be able to devote more time to their work than I was able to do.

Brougham Union Lodge, No. 269, Brougham: I visited this lodge on the evening of the 12th January, 1898. The evening was a wet one, and therefore the attendance small. Several of the brethren from Stouffville, Uxbridge, Markham and Pickering intended to be present but found it impossible to get there owing to the disagreeable weather. There being no work to be done I requested W. Bro. Barnes to open and close in the three degrees, and which was well and accurately done, and from the manner of it I am sure that the officers are competent to do all the work in the degrees. I am very sorry however that there has not been any work for them to do this year. I addressed them on matters of interest, and also answered such questions as they desired for their information. In Bro. Beaton they have a careful and efficient secretary, his books are a model of neatness. After the lodge closed we spent a pleasant time partaking of the hospitality of the lodge, all regretting that the visiting brethren had been prevented from being present.

Robertson Lodge, No. 292, King: I visited this lodge on their regular meeting held on the 6th day of April, 1898, when there was a large attendance, many brethren being present from Aurora, Maple and Richmond Hill. I had been looking forward to this visit, as I had heard so much about the prosperity of this lodge, and had met with the W. M. and some of his officers while visiting other lodges. I am glad to say that I was not disappointed. I found the lodge-room comfortable and tastefully decorated, and in W. Bro. J. W. Crossley a Master who loves Masonry. On the evening of my visit there were no less than six applications and one affiliation, one brother was initiated and two passed to the second degree. The work was well done by the Worshipful Master and his officers, the

lectures being given by the Wardens very accurately, I may say without a single omission. W. Bro. Ratcliffe assisted W. Bro. Crossley in passing one of the brethren. I must say that this is the most progressive rural lodge in the district this year. The brethren all take very great interest in their work, and W. Bro. Crossley is an enthusiast. There is no fear now of Robertson Lodge, and it is now one of the strongest, having able brethren filling all the offices. After the lodge closed we were hospitably entertained by the brethren.

Humber Lodge, No. 305, Weston: I visited this lodge on the evening of the 4th of May, 1898. There was a fair attendance of brethren present. The work was well done. The lodge-room is comfortable, commodious and well furnished. The books I found well kept, and the secretary a painstaking officer. The lodge is in a prosperous condition, its hospitality unbounded. We spent a very pleasant hour at the refreshment table.

Blackwood Lodge, No. 311, Woodbridge: I visited this lodge on the evening of Friday, the 24th day of June, 1898, it being my last official visit as D. D. G. M. I had intended visiting Blackwood earlier in the year, and notified the brethren of my intention on two former occasions, but circumstances over which I had no control prevented the carrying out of my intention; however, I was pleased to be able at last to pay them my official visit before the end of June, and thus complete my visitation. The evening was exceedingly warm, and therefore the attendance small. I was pleased however to see the third degree performed by W. Bro. Smith, P. M., the W. M., W. Bro. Watson, having been unavoidably detained until late in the evening. Seldom have I seen the work more accurately done than it was by the officers of this lodge, although the heat was very oppressive. I am very sorry, however, the lodge is not increasing its membership, there not having been an initiation this year, which makes it much more wonderful to see the accuracy of the work. The founder of this lodge was R. W. Bro. Blackwood, and his memory is revered by the brethren, and by resolution of the lodge the minutes of every meeting contain the following entry at the beginning of same: "Founder of Lodge, Thomas F. Blackwood, died May 25th, 1896." I was sorry to see that many of the brethren are in arrears with their dues. The secretary, Bro. J. P. Bunt, is a good officer, and, the night of my visit, walked six miles to attend the meeting. Many of the brethren live several miles from the lodge-room, and therefore are not as regular in their attendance as they would desire. There have, however, been no less fourteen meetings this year, so that I have every confidence in the prosperity of this lodge.

Doric Lodge, No. 316, Toronto : I visited this lodge on the 16th day of December, 1897. There was a large attendance ; many distinguished brethren were present, among others M. W. Bro. John Ross Robertson, P. G. M. It was the night of the installation of the new officers and the ceremony was well performed by R. W. Bro. H. A. Collins, P. D. D. G. M., assisted by R. W. Bro. A. A. S. Ardagh, G. S. W., W. Bro. R. N. Davis, and W. Bro. Wm. McCartney. This was the last meeting of this lodge in its old hall. After the installation ceremony was over W. Bro. H. H. Williams was presented with a Past Master's jewel, the presentation being very happily made on behalf of the lodge by W. Bro. Mutton, and W. Bro. Williams made a suitable reply. The secretary, Bro. H. E. Griffiths, is an excellent officer and keeps his books in a first-class condition. What work I saw done, which was the opening and closing, was fairly well done and I have no doubt but that this lodge will have a prosperous year. The hospitality of this lodge is well known and all spent a very pleasant evening. The brethren before departing sang "Auld Lang Syne" while gathered around the altar.

Zetland Lodge, No. 326, Toronto : I visited this lodge on the 22nd day of April, 1898. The night was very wet but there was a large attendance. I had the pleasure of seeing two initiations, the one conducted by the W. M. W. Bro. Angus and the other by W. Bro. H. H. Williams and the officers of the lodge. As this lodge is well known for the accuracy in which the work is always done there was no exception this evening and could not be surpassed. The Junior Warden's lecture by Bro. R. A. Donald was done admirably. I was glad to meet in his Masonic Home R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, D. G. M., who no doubt will soon be the ruler of the Craft in Ontario. This lodge needs no praise from me, it is prosperous, its financial standing good and its hospitality unbounded. The secretary's books are particularly well kept, Bro. W. C. Eddis being an excellent officer. He is I think the only secretary in the district who keeps an index to his minute book, which is an excellent feature.

Orient Lodge, No. 339, Toronto : I intended to visit this lodge on the 31st of May, and requested the W. M. to call an emergent meeting for that purpose, which he kindly did, but at the last moment I found it was impossible for me to attend, I therefore attended at its regular meeting on the 7th June, 1898, when there was a fair attendance. I was sorry there was no work to be done, and more especially so when I learned that the third degree had been performed at the emergent meeting which would have been done at this. Two candi-

dates had been expected to present themselves for initiation, but neither was present. The newly elected secretary and organist, W. Bro. Chick, were installed in office by W. Bro. Inwood in his usual happy manner. I addressed the brethren on matters of interest to them after which I was entertained by them and we passed together a very pleasant hour. This lodge is harmonious and prosperous and has in W. Bro. J. W. Thomson a very able and efficient Master, who informed me that since his initiation some years ago he has only been absent from one meeting of the lodge. I am very sure few brethren can show such regular attendance. I feel in his hands Orient Lodge is safe.

Georgina Lodge, No. 343, Toronto: I looked forward with pleasure to my visit to this lodge as I was intimately acquainted with several of its members and I had also visited it on several occasions before its removal from Sutton. However as its regular meeting night is on the first Saturday in each month, which would be very inconvenient to me, I requested the Worshipful Master to call an emergent meeting, which he kindly did on Friday the 13th day of May, 1898. There was a very good attendance present and I had the pleasure of seeing three initiations performed by three well skilled brethren, viz., R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, D. G. M., W. Bro. F. W. Flett the W. M., and W. Bro. A. L. Malone, the I. P. M. To say that the work was well done would not describe how well pleased I was to have an opportunity of seeing it done by three such efficient and accurate brethren. It was almost perfect. This lodge is in a very prosperous condition. It meets in one of the prettiest lodge rooms I have ever visited, and it counts among its members some of the most prominent Masons. I feel satisfied that their success is assured, and in Bro. G. O. Merson they have a most excellent secretary, his books being models of neatness. This lodge has had no less than 34 initiations during the past year and has increased its membership from 137 as set out in my predecessor's report to 169, and is one of the most flourishing lodges in the district.

Occident Lodge, No 346, Toronto. I visited this lodge on the 15th day of December, 1897, accompanied by R. W. Bro. C. F. Farwell, D. D. G. M., Algoma District, also R. W. Bro. Geo. Tait, P. D. D. G. M. There was a large attendance of members and many visiting brethren. M. W. Bro. John Ross Robertson, P. G. M., was present and addressed the lodge with reference to the removal of the lodge to the new temple buildings, but the lodge was almost unanimous in remaining where they were. It being the night of the installation of the officers the ceremony was conducted by R. W. Bro. Geo. Tait, P. D.

D. G. M., assisted by V. W. Bro. Dunn and W. Bro. Barber, and after its completion I had the pleasure on behalf of the lodge to present the retiring Master, W. Bro. Barber, with a Past Master's jewel, in response to which the worthy brother made a few appropriate remarks thanking the brethren for their loyal support during his term of office. The secretary, Bro. Lillie, is an efficient and painstaking officer and keeps his books well. The brethren are most kind and hospitable and we spent a very pleasant time in speeches and songs around the refreshment table. In W. Bro. Duncan they have a capable Master under whose rule the lodge cannot but prosper.

Brock Lodge, No. 354, Cannington: I visited this lodge on Wednesday, the 6th day of October, 1897, accompanied by R. W. Bro. Geo. Tait, P. D. D. G. M., when there was a large attendance of the brethren. At the unanimous request of the lodge R. W. Bro. Tait, assisted by the officers of the lodge, exemplified the third degree to the great satisfaction and instruction of all the brethren present. I then addressed the brethren, and feel that my visit will be of benefit to Brock Lodge. Being the nearest lodge to my own home I was well acquainted with all the brethren and therefore spent a pleasant time. The District Chaplain, Rev. Bro. W. B. Tucker, is a member of this lodge but was unavoidably absent on the occasion of my visit. The secretary, W. Bro. Sharp, keeps his books well and is an old and respected brother. I feel satisfied that Brock Lodge has a bright future before it. The officers do their work accurately and well. After the labors of the evening were ended we adjourned to the Taylor House where a sumptuous repast awaited us, and speeches and songs were indulged in to the "wee sma hours," all agreeing that a pleasant evening had been spent.

River Park Lodge, No. 356, Streetsville: I visited this lodge officially on the 20th day of April, 1897. The Worshipful Master was not present. The lodge I was informed was in a prosperous condition. The members are a first-class lot of brethren, well calculated to make up a thriving and good lodge. The secretary, Bro. Taylor, is a painstaking and efficient officer and keeps his books well. He told me that he had only missed four meetings in twenty years. There being no candidates present I requested the W. M. to open and close in the three degrees which was done well. We spent a very profitable evening and I answered many questions and instructed the brethren in many points requested by them. After the lodge closed I was entertained by the brethren at the refreshment table set in the lodge room and spent a most enjoyable evening.

St. George's Lodge, No. 367, Toronto : I visited this lodge on the 7th of January and found the lodge in first-class condition. Some difference of opinion had existed among the brethren as to their removal to the temple building or not and M. W. Bro. John Ross Robertson, P. G. M., was present and addressed the lodge upon the matter, but the lodge ultimately decided to remain where they were. They meet in the same lodge room as Occident Lodge and they considered it was in the interests of the lodge to remain. Owing to the death of W. Bro. Wm. Bell it was necessary to elect a new treasurer, he having held that office for many years acceptably to the lodge. W. Bro. Stoneham was elected as his successor. I was pleased to see the first and second degrees performed by the W. M. and brethren of his lodge in an able and accurate manner, the Junior Warden's lecture as delivered by Bro. J. Drew being done in a most excellent manner, almost perfect. I was well pleased with the work of W. Bro. Main and his officers as it was the first meeting after their installation. To a genuine lover of Masonry it must be indeed a pleasure to have the privilege of assisting in the initiation of one's son into the Ancient Craft. Such was the ceremony I witnessed on my visit to this lodge when Bro. F. Saunders, acting as Senior Warden, assisted in the initiation of his son. The books of the secretary are well kept, and the hospitality of the lodge unbounded. I feel satisfied that St. George's will succeed well.

Mimico Lodge, No. 369, Lambton Mills : I visited this lodge on the 27th day of April, 1898, and was glad to find it in such a flourishing condition. They have a large and well fitted lodge room which is owned by them and out of debt. There were present a number of brethren from Stanley and other lodges. I was also pleased to meet as one of the Past Masters of the lodge W. Bro. Rev. A. R. Linton, an old schoolfellow of my own, whom I had not met for over twenty-five years. W. Bro. Anderson and his officers initiated a candidate, and I can only reiterate what my predecessors have already said that the work in this lodge is well done, accurate, and impressive, and deserves well merited praise. The secretary's books are well kept and everything about the lodge seems healthy and prosperous. We spent a pleasant hour around the refreshment table in speeches and songs, and fully understood why the brethren wish to visit Mimico Lodge.

Alpha Lodge, No. 384, Toronto : I visited this lodge on the 7th day of April, 1898, and was introduced by the I. P. M W Bro. St. John whom I have known for many years, and I was very sorry that I had not the pleasure of visiting the lodge

during the time he was Master as I understood he performed the work almost faultlessly. I was therefore not surprised to find that the same could be said about his successor W. Bro. Middleton and his officers. There were two initiations and the work was remarkably well done, and although it was the first time that Bro. Greig delivered the J. W. lecture it was done admirably. I was particularly well pleased at the impressive and accurate manner in which W. Bro. Williams of Occident Lodge delivered the charge to the candidates, one of whom, Bro. Trent, was an old and particular friend of his own. This beautiful charge is too often omitted, which is a great pity as it is one of the most instructive parts of the work, for it lays down in eloquent language the rules of life which should govern the true Mason. This lodge is prosperous, and in V. W. Bro. Voss has a most efficient and painstaking secretary who keeps his books well and neatly. Their hospitality is unbounded, and after the labors of the evening we spent a most pleasant time around the festive board until "wee sma hours" of the morning.

Zeta Lodge, No. 410, Toronto: I had arranged to pay my official visit to this lodge on the 27th of May, and was sorry to be compelled to disappoint the brethren by my unavoidable absence. I however paid my official visit on the 10th June, and was pleased to find a very fair attendance of the brethren present. Two brethren were raised to the sublime degree and the work was exceedingly well done by W. Bro. Brown, W. M., assisted by R. W. Bro. Rowe. The books of the secretary, Bro. Christie, are well kept. This lodge is in a prosperous condition. I spent a very pleasant evening at Zeta Lodge.

Doric Lodge, No. 424, Pickering: I visited this lodge on Thursday evening, the 7th October, 1898, but unfortunately the W. M. and secretary were absent. There was a good attendance of brethren present, and some visiting brethren from Whitby. The work of the first degree was well performed by Bro. Gormley and the officers of the lodge. I was sorry to learn that the initiations are few, as there is good material in this lodge, the officers all being good officers and efficient brethren. I promised the brethren to try and visit them later in the year, but was unable to make arrangements. After the lodge closed we repaired to the Gordon House, where I was kindly entertained at the festive board for a pleasant hour by the brethren.

Stanley Lodge, No. 426, Toronto Junction: I paid my official visit to this lodge on the evening of the 5th April, 1898. This lodge is in a very flourishing condition, and on the night of my visit there was one initiation and three brethren were passed

to the second degree. There was a large attendance and many visitors, chiefly from Occident Lodge, who paid a fraternal visit. I was well pleased with the manner in which W. Bro. Bull and his officers performed the work, and I took occasion to compliment Bro. A. J. Anderson on the accurate manner he gave the lecture of the Junior Warden. This lodge enjoys the privilege of meeting in one of the nicest and most comfortable lodge-rooms in the district. Before the labors of the evening were ended, as the hour was getting late, the lodge was called to refreshment, and we spent a very pleasant hour in the banquetting hall in speech and song. There is no fear but that Stanley Lodge will have a prosperous future.

Acacia Lodge, No. 430, East Toronto: As Stanley Lodge is the lodge on the west outside of the city so is this lodge first on the east, and being both about the same age they are much alike. Acacia also has a new lodge-room, generous in size, perfect in detail, and handsomely furnished, situated in a growing and well populated locality. This lodge has every reason to expect a large measure of prosperity. The night of my visit was also the night of installation of officers, which ceremony was performed by that excellent and accurate installing officer, R. W. Bro. Geo. Tait, P. D. D. G. M. A little unpleasantness occurred which interfered with the harmony of the lodge. A candidate had been balloted for and rejected, whereupon some of the newly elected officers refused to be installed: but I understand at a subsequent meeting they consented, and as no further report has been made to me about the matter I have no doubt harmony has been restored. In Bro. Hunter I believe the lodge has an efficient officer, who will rule the craft with honor to himself and credit to the lodge. There were a large number of visiting brethren present, and at the banquet later in the evening we had a most pleasant time.

Harmony Lodge, No. 438, Toronto: This is the youngest lodge in the district, but it is energetic and prosperous. On the night of my official visit there were a large number of visiting brethren from several of the city lodges. Among the distinguished brethren present were R. W. Bro. Aubrey White, P. D. D. G. M.; R. W. Bro. Geo. Bennett, P. D. D. G. M.; R. W. Bro. A. A. S. Ardagh, G. J. W.; R. W. Bro. Benj. Allen, P. G. S. W., and several others. The Worshipful Master is W. Bro. ex-Mayor Warring Kennedy, and as they were disappointed in two candidates not being present, I had no opportunity in seeing any degree work done; but from what I did see and could learn, I have no fear as to the success of this lodge. The secretary's books are neat and well kept,

and everything about the lodge shows prosperity. At the banquet afterwards the W. M. proved himself an expert in the work of the "Fourth Degree."

CONCLUSION.

In conclusion I desire to once more convey to the brethren generally my warm appreciation of the many kindnesses extended to me during my tenure of office. And as I expect I will be the last D. D. G. M. of Toronto District as it is at present constituted, I hand over to my successor or successors the sacred trust given me a year ago, feeling sure the generous support given me will be accorded to him or them by the craft. And I hope that whatever action is taken as to the division of the district the result will be the continued prosperity of Masonry therein.

I cannot conclude without thanking all those brethren who assisted me by their presence often during my official visits, and their kindly advice, R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, D. G. M. ; R. W. Bro. George Tait, P. D. D. G. M. ; R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf, P. D. D. G. M. ; R. W. Bro. Aubrey White, P. D. D. G. M. ; T. D. Brunton, P. D. D. G. M., and many others.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

T. W. CHAPPLE, D. D. G. M.,
Toronto District, No. 11.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.
 Table Showing the work done in Toronto District, No. 11, from June 24th, 1897, to June 24th, 1898.

| Number of Lodge. | NAME OF LODGE. | LOCATION. | Membership | | Total No. of all Mem. | Increase during year. | | E. A. | F. C. | M. M. | Degrees conferred | | | Total | Meetings held. | | | Average attendance of members. | Amount paid for relief. | No. of members 12 months in arrears. | Total of all Arrears. | Date of last G. L. Return. | Prosper's Financial Standing. | Prospects of Lodge. | Can. W. M. work all degrees. | Insurance. |
|------------------|----------------|---------------|------------|----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------------|----------|------------|-------|----------------|----------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| | | | Decrease | Increase | | E. A. | F. C. | | | | M. M. | Regular. | Emergency. | | Deceased. | Suspensions, other causes. | Resignations. | | | | | | | | | |
| 16 | St. Andrew's | Toronto | 7 | 223 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 200 00 | 51 | 387 75 | Dec. '97 | Prosper's | Good. | Yes | Yes |
| 17 | St. Andrew's | Toronto | 7 | 178 | 3 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 75 00 | 6 | 48 40 | June, '98 | Good. | Good. | Yes | \$2500 00 |
| 22 | Richmond | Richmond Hill | 4 | 29 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 00 | 5 | 25 75 | June, '98 | Good. | Good. | Yes | Yes |
| 25 | Ionic | Toronto | 8 | 200 | 8 | 6 | 6 | 13 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 110 00 | 11 | 70 50 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Fair. | Yes | 1800 00 |
| 51 | Vaughan | Maple | 3 | 31 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 72 45 | 33 | 58 80 | Dec. '97 | Sound. | Bright. | Yes | 100 00 |
| 65 | Rehoboth | Toro | 19 | 225 | 19 | 16 | 17 | 9 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 60 00 | 1 | 15 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Excellent | Yes | MTrust |
| 75 | St. John's | Toronto | 14 | 207 | 16 | 14 | 17 | 12 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 10 | 2 | 12 | 45 | 15 | 32 | 00 | 6 | 15 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 1000 00 |
| 86 | Wilson | Toronto | 10 | 153 | 16 | 10 | 7 | 13 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 13 | 13 | 13 | 17 | 15 | 11 | 17 | 5 00 | 4 | 15 00 | June, '97 | Solvent. | Good. | Yes | 200 00 |
| 87 | Markham | U Markham | 4 | 30 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 00 | 4 | 15 00 | June, '97 | Very good | Good. | Yes | 900 00 |
| 97 | Sharon | Sharon | 4 | 47 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 00 | 1 | 15 00 | June, '97 | Fair. | Good. | Yes | 300 00 |
| 98 | True Blue | Bolton | 4 | 14 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 00 | 1 | 30 00 | June, '97 | Fair. | Good. | Yes | 300 00 |
| 99 | Tuscan | New Market | 4 | 46 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 00 | 1 | 30 00 | June, '97 | Good. | Medium | Yes | 600 00 |
| 118 | Union | Schouberg | 22 | 22 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 25 00 | 2 | 37 80 | June, '98 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 1500 00 |
| 129 | Rising Sun | Aurora | 5 | 52 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 25 00 | 2 | 37 80 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Fair. | Yes | 200 00 |
| 136 | Richards'n | Stouffville | 4 | 31 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 37 00 | 28 | 402 85 | Dec. '97 | Fair. | Bright. | Yes | 600 00 |
| 156 | York | North Toronto | 4 | 96 | 4 | 11 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 12 | 3 | 15 | 43 | 19 | 76 00 | 25 | 402 85 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 400 00 |
| 210 | Stevenson | Toronto | 13 | 139 | 13 | 12 | 10 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 13 | 1 | 14 | 19 | 18 | 76 00 | 2 | 402 85 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | Yes |
| 220 | Zeredathia | Uxbridge | 2 | 67 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 00 | 3 | 402 85 | June, '98 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 400 00 |
| 229 | Ionic | Brampton | 1 | 72 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 14 | 18 | 18 | 18 | 10 00 | 7 | 402 85 | Dec. '97 | Excellent | Good. | Yes | Yes |
| 247 | Ashlar | Toronto | 9 | 161 | 9 | 12 | 10 | 12 | 22 | 47 | 2 | 10 | 12 | 22 | 47 | 2 | 10 | 12 | 10 00 | 7 | 402 85 | Dec. '97 | Excellent | Good. | Yes | Yes |

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Toronto District, No. 8, from June 24th, 1897, to June 24th, 1898 — Continued.

| Number of Lodge. | NAME OF LODGE. | LOCATION. | Membership. | | | Degrees conferred. | | | Total No. of all Mem. | Increase during year. | Decrease during year. | Meetings held. | | | Average attendance of members. | Amount paid for relief. | No of members 12 months in arrears. | Total of all arrearages. | Date of last G. L. Return. | Financial Standing. | Prospects of Lodge. | Can W. M. work all degrees. | Insurance. |
|------------------|----------------|------------------|-------------|----------|----------|--------------------|-------|-------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-----------|---------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| | | | Total | Increase | Decrease | E. A. | F. C. | M. M. | | | | Regular. | Emergent. | Total. | | | | | | | | | |
| 265 | Patterson. | Thornhill | 27 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 10 | 8 | 8 | \$ 5 00 | 6 | 5 | 94 | Dec. '97 | Fair. | Good. | Yes | 200 00 | |
| 269 | Brougham U. | Brougham | 38 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 8 | \$ 5 00 | 14 | 5 | 20 | Dec. '97 | Not good | Only fair | Yes | 150 00 | |
| 272 | R. Lertson. | King | 12 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 39 | 75 Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | Yes | |
| 305 | Humber | Weston | 42 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 11 | 13 | 13 | 200 00 | 8 | 4 | 620 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | Yes | |
| 311 | Blackwood | Wool bridge | 31 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 100 00 | 14 | 4 | 335 | 50 Dec. '97 | Pair. | Cloudy. | Yes | Yes | |
| 316 | Doric | Toronto | 135 | 8 | 4 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 6 | 17 | 25 | 25 | 300 00 | 38 | 8 | 318 | 45 Dec. '97 | Good | Good. | Yes | 1000 00 | |
| 326 | Zetland | Toronto | 270 | 25 | 27 | 26 | 24 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 21 | 31 | 31 | 49 32 | 35 | 3 | 480 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 1200 00 | |
| 339 | Orient | Toronto | 170 | 4 | 10 | 11 | 13 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 32 50 | 37 | 2 | 500 | June, '97 | Good. | Very good | Yes | 200 00 | |
| 343 | Georgina | Toronto | 169 | 31 | 31 | 30 | 27 | 3 | 7 | 13 | 19 | 28 | 28 | 30 00 | 20 | 2 | 35 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 100 00 | |
| 346 | Oceant | Toronto | 154 | 21 | 18 | 15 | 11 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 00 | 7 | 1 | 18 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Fair. | Yes | 500 00 | |
| 354 | Brook | Cannington | 51 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 6 | 25 00 | 7 | 1 | 47 | June, '97 | Good. | Al. | Yes | 1000 00 | |
| 356 | River Park | Strettsville | 20 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 11 | 12 | 11 | 12 00 | 49 | 16 | 153 | June, '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 1000 00 | |
| 367 | St. George. | Toronto | 130 | 21 | 9 | 17 | 15 | 11 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 11 | 17 | 12 00 | 49 | 16 | 273 | 30 June, '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 1000 00 | |
| 369 | Mimico | Lambton Mills | 19 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 37 93 | 37 | 1 | 137 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Excellent | Yes | 1000 00 | |
| 384 | Alpha | Toronto | 167 | 5 | 9 | 9 | 10 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 12 | 13 | 11 | 50 00 | 4 | 1 | 60 | June, '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 500 00 | |
| 410 | Zeta | Toronto | 86 | 21 | 10 | 17 | 12 | 10 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 50 00 | 4 | 1 | 137 | Dec. '97 | Go d. | Good. | Yes | 1000 00 | |
| 424 | Doric | Pickering | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 50 | 11 | 1 | 60 | June, '97 | Go d. | Good. | Yes | 500 00 | |
| 426 | Stanley | Toronto J. C. U. | 120 | 23 | 1 | 16 | 16 | 14 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 40 00 | 11 | 1 | 456 | Dec. '96 | Fair. | Good. | Yes | 500 00 | |
| 430 | Acacia | East Toronto | 70 | ... | 2 | 7 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 30 00 | 11 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |
| 438 | Harmony | Toronto | 118 | 16 | 2 | 15 | 9 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 40 00 | 11 | 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | |

ONTARIO DISTRICT, NO. 12.

To the M. W. the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

At the annual communication of the Grand Lodge held in the City of Brantford, my brethren of the 12th Masonic District did me the high honor of electing me to the proud position of District Deputy Grand Master.

During my term of office it has been my constant effort to merit the confidence placed in me. If I have fallen short in the performance of my duty it was not through lack of zeal in the cause, rather it was my fortune to succeed a number of exceptionally able brethren whose good work will long be felt in the district.

During the year I have visited every lodge but one in the district, viz., Orono Lodge, No. 325, which I was prevented from doing by sickness when I was in that part of the district where it is situated.

Application was made to me during the year by the brethren of Victoria Lodge, No. 398, situated in the Village of Victoria Road, to change its location to the Village of Kirkfield. After carefully enquiring into the matter I granted the permission and to-day it is a live and active lodge.

When I paid my official visit to Norwood Lodge, No. 223, I could not get a sufficient number of the members together to hold a meeting. I learned that the lodge had not met since January, 1898.

I also found that the lodge was far behind in its dues to Grand Lodge, and that several of the members were so far behind in their dues that I think that there is very little prospects of them ever paying up.

I also learned that they had sometime previous to my visit initiated a candidate that was in the jurisdiction of Havelock Lodge, No. 435, and who was rejected by Havelock Lodge only a couple of months before Norwood Lodge initiated him.

I would recommend my successor to pay particular attention to this lodge.

Murray Lodge, No. 408 : Visited this lodge on December 7th, 1897. There was a good attendance and I saw the W.

Master and officers confer the M. M. degree. The work was fairly well done. The Past Masters take an active part in the work. The secretary reports the dues well paid up and the financial standing good.

The Spry Lodge, No. 406 : Paid my official visit to this lodge on December 27th and installed the officers. This lodge has increased its membership during the year and a marked improvement in the attendance is a feature worthy of notice. There has been a decided improvement made in the lodge room and the officers and members take an active interest in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the lodge. W. Bro. Farncomb is a painstaking and careful secretary and to his untiring efforts the success and satisfactory condition of the lodge are largely due.

Arcadia Lodge, No. 440 : Paid my official visit to this lodge on January 7th, 1898, and installed the officers. There was a good attendance. Although the youngest lodge in the district they can set an example to many of the older ones. The officers are all enthusiastic and are well up in their work. They are particularly careful in admitting members, which speaks well for the future of the lodge. Under the able and careful guidance of W. Bro. P. M. Freer there need be no fear of Arcadia Lodge.

Durham Lodge, No. 66 : Paid my official visit to this lodge on February 1st. The train was delayed several hours on account of a storm. There was an "At Home" being held under the auspices of the Foresters, to which society a number of the brethren belong. The brethren had just closed down but a number of us met informally and the secretary reported the lodge in sound financial standing and the dues well paid up. The books are well kept and the secretary is prompt. The W. M. Rev. Bro. Farncomb is a capable officer in every respect, and the Past Masters take active part in the meetings. The lodge room though small is neatly furnished and comfortable.

Jerusalem Lodge, No. 31 : Paid my official visit to this lodge on February 2nd. The W. Master was installed and the work was well done by W. Bro. Bounsall assisted by P. M. W. Bro. Percy. Immediately after the installation the W. M. and officers conferred the entered apprentice degree. The work was fairly well done. The brethren have provided themselves with a new lodge regalia and the W. M. presented the lodge with a W. M's. silver collar. The lodge room is large and neatly furnished and the brethren have made many improvements in it during the past year that will add materially to their comfort. The books are neatly kept and the secretary is a

prompt and efficient officer. The dues are well paid up. Jerusalem Lodge is one of the best in the district.

Hope Lodge No. 114 : Visited this lodge on Feb. 4th. The attendance was large. The Entered Apprentice degree was conferred, and the work was fairly well done by the newly elected officers, especially by the Junior Warden. The lodge-room is the best in the district, and is occupied jointly with Ontario Lodge. The books are well kept, and the secretary reports dues well paid up.

Victoria Lodge, No. 398 : Visited this lodge on March 2nd. There was a fair attendance. There was no work, and the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. Since the removal of this lodge to Kirkfield I again visited it on May 4th, when the Entered Apprentice degree was conferred on two candidates and the work was fairly well done. The lodge-room is very neat and comfortable. The dues are well paid up, and the lodge is now in a prosperous condition.

Faithful Brethren Lodge, No. 77 : Visited this lodge on March 4th. The attendance was fair. There being no work the lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees, and the work was very well done. The dues are well paid up and financial standing good. The Past Masters take an active part in the work of the lodge.

Keene Lodge, No. 374 : Visited this lodge on March 15th. I was accompanied by W. Bros. Johnston and Burritt, and Bro. Parker, of Corinthian Lodge, Peterboro. Being no work the lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees. W. Bro. Shaw is a careful and prompt secretary. The accounts of the lodge are well kept and the dues well paid up.

Clementi Lodge, No. 313 : Visited this lodge on March 16th. I was accompanied by R. W. Bro. Wood, of Corinthian Lodge, and W. Bro. Gibson and Bro. Conroy, of Peterboro Lodge. The lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees. This lodge is in a most satisfactory condition. The dues are well paid up, and prospects of lodge bright. The secretary, Bro. Dench, is one of the best in the district, and the books are neatly kept.

Ontario Lodge, No. 26 : Visited this lodge on March 17th. There was a large attendance. The Entered Apprentice degree was conferred by the W. M. and officers, and the work was well done. The Past Masters take an active part in all matters pertaining to the welfare of the lodge. The room is occupied jointly with Hope Lodge. There have been improvements made in connection with the room that will add materially to the comfort of the brethren. R. W. Bro. Robertson is a very efficient secretary, the best in the district. The books are

neatly kept. The lodge is increasing in members and the finances in good condition.

Mount Zion Lodge, No. 39 : Visited this lodge on April 5th, accompanied by R. W. Bro. Ross, W. Bros. Taylor, Henderson, and King, and Bro. Hatch of Composite Lodge, Whitby. The fellowcrafts' degree was conferred on two candidates and the work fairly well done. This lodge is in a prosperous condition now which is largely due to the brethren of Composite Lodge, Whitby, and especially to the exertions of R. W. Bro. Ross.

Fidelity Lodge, No. 428 : Visited this lodge on April 6th. The attendance was good and the entered apprentice degree was conferred on two candidates by the W. M. and officers. The lodge room is large and well furnished. Although this lodge has twice suffered from fire it is out of debt and a surplus in the bank. The officers are efficient and capable and are punctual in attendance. The dues are well paid up.

Composite Lodge, No. 30 : Paid my official visit to this lodge on April 7th. The lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees. This is one of the best lodges in the district. The officers are prompt and well up to their work. This lodge sustained a loss by the death of their secretary Bro. Willis, having held the office for twenty-six years. The dues are well paid up. The Past Masters take an active part in all the proceedings, and where such is the case the prosperity of the lodge is assured.

Havelock Lodge, No. 435 : Visited this lodge on April 19th. The lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees, and the Entered Apprentice degree was conferred by the W. M. and officers in a very creditable manner. The attendance was large although the evening was bad. The lodge-room is large and comfortably furnished. The secretary reports the lodge out of debt and the dues well paid up.

Norwood Lodge, No. 223 : Visited this lodge on April 20th. There was no meeting, as only two brethren put in appearance. The affairs of this lodge are in very bad shape.

Lorne Lodge, No. 375 : Paid my official visit to this lodge on April 21st. The Entered Apprentice degree was conferred and the work was fairly done. Afterwards the lodge was opened and closed in the second and third degrees. This lodge is in good financial standing, and the secretary reports the dues well paid up.

J. B. Hall Lodge, No. 145 : Visited this lodge on April 22nd. There being no work the lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees. The finances of the lodge are in a good condition. The Past Masters take an active interests in the affairs of the lodge. The secretary is a painstaking officer and the dues are well paid up.

Peterboro Lodge, No. 155, Corinthian Lodge, No. 101 : Paid my official visit to these two lodges on May 6th. Peterboro Lodge conferred the fellow-craft degree and the work was creditably done. Corinthian Lodge conferred the M. M. degree and the work was well done. R. W. Bros. Wood and Shortly and P. M. W. Bro. Johnston assisted the W. M. in the work. Both lodges occupy the same room jointly and it is large and neatly furnished. The Past Masters take an active part in all matters pertaining to the welfare of their respective lodges. The secretaries are prompt in the performance of their duties and report the dues well paid up.

Lebanon Lodge, No. 139, Cedar Lodge, No. 270 : Paid my official visit jointly to both of these lodges on May 13th. The M. M. degree was conferred by Lebanon Lodge, Cedar Lodge assisting. The work was well done, the best that I had the pleasure of witnessing during the year, each officer being well up in his work. The lodge-room is occupied jointly by both lodges, and is large and beautifully furnished. The secretaries are prompt and painstaking officers. They report the dues well paid up, and their books are well kept. I was accompanied on this visit by W. Bro. Taylor and Bro. Hatch, of Composite Lodge, Whitby.

Verulam Lodge, No. 268 : Visited this lodge on June 3rd. There being no work the lodge was opened and closed in the several degrees, and the work fairly well done. The secretary reports the dues well paid up and financial standing good.

I have issued the following dispensations : Arcadia Lodge, No. 440, to appear in public clothed as Masons, to attend divine service on December 26th, 1897. Faithful Brethren Lodge, No. 77, to appear in public clothed as Masons, to attend divine service on June 26th, 1898. Hope Lodge, No. 114, to appear in public clothed as Masons, to attend divine service on July 3rd, 1898. Havelock Lodge, No. 435, to appear in public clothed as Masons, to attend divine service on July 10th, 1898.

My thanks are due for the support and assistance rendered me during my term of office, especially to R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason, Grand Secretary, R. W. Bro. Wood, R. W. Bro. Ross, W. Bro. Johnston, W. Bro. Gibson, W. Bro. Taylor, and Bro. Hatch.

In conclusion I desire to thank the brethren of the district for the unvarying kindness with which I have been received, and assure them that I look back upon my official visits during the year with unalloyed pleasure.

I am conscious that my duty has been often very imperfectly performed and trust to the general forbearance of the brethren

to overlook my shortcomings and to believe that the earnest wish to render efficient service in my official capacity has never been wanting.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

E. FITZGERALD, D. D. G. M.,
Ontario District, No. 12.

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT, No. 13.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit for your consideration my report in connection with the condition of Freemasonry in Prince Edward District No. 13.

I am pleased to be able to report that the condition of every lodge in the District is favorable, and the prospects are bright. Each lodge is under the government of good officers, who are able and willing to do all they can to advance the honor, reputation and usefulness of the Order. The one weak lodge spoken of by my predecessor, R.W. Bro. Pringle, Mystic Lodge, No. 278, found it impossible to keep up the interest of their members, and therefore at a meeting held on October 7th last, they abandoned their charter which I think under the circumstances was the best thing they could do.

The annual dues of members throughout the district are not nearly as well paid up as they should be, and I have been very particular in trying to stir up the officers having charge of that part of the work to try and remedy this state of affairs. I hope that my successors will find an improvement in this respect. There are some lodges in this district who do not deserve to come under the above censure, but the majority of them, I am sorry to say, do.

The harmony which prevailed throughout the district when I was elected to the position, has, I am glad to say, continued throughout the year ; not a single dispute or trouble of any kind having arisen. I trust that my successors may have the same good fortune for years to come.

I visited all the lodges in the district at their regular meetings, and I wish to thank the brethren for the hospitable manner in which I was received. Each lodge without exception provided a very enjoyable supper and did everything in their power to make my visit a pleasant one.

The Belleville Lodge, No. 123 : My first visit was made to Belleville Lodge on the evening of November 3rd, 1897. I found this lodge in first-class order in every way. The dues

were well paid up and the work in the third degree done in a manner to be expected in the Mother Lodge of R. W. Bro. Pringle. The Master, W. Bro. Ponton, is a worthy successor to his well known predecessors, and has an excellent staff of officers to ably assist him in carrying on the work of the lodge. V. W. Bro. W. H. Adams is still Secretary of the lodge, which is a guarantee that the books are in good order.

United Lodge, No. 29 ; Accompanied by R. W. Bro. Craig, W. Bro. Rankin and Bro. Armstrong of St. Johns No. 17, Couburg, I visited the Brighton brethren on the evening of December 2nd, 1897. This was the first meeting in their new lodge-room, which is a credit to the members of United Lodge. The first degree was conferred in a very excellent manner by W. Bro. Sanford and his officers, who showed themselves to be thoroughly familiar with their duties. Bro. Keller, the secretary is, as I had heard before, a model secretary, and I found everything in first-class order in connection with his work. Dues well paid up and the lodge financially in good shape.

Prince Edward Lodge, No. 18 : I visited this lodge on the evening of December 28th, 1897, and saw the first degree conferred in an exemplary manner by the retiring Master, W. Bro. Hough and his officers, after which I installed the officers for the ensuing year. I am satisfied from the appearance of the new officers, and from the work I saw them do, in the offices held by them before installation, that the reputation of Prince Edward Lodge will not lose anything in their hands. This is the largest lodge in the district, and is second to none in excellence of work. I found the books in first class condition.

Colborne Lodge, No. 91 : I found everything in Colborne Lodge in a very satisfactory condition on the occasion of my visit on January 7th, 1898. There was no work exemplified. I installed the new officers for the ensuing year, and they are an intelligent and capable looking lot of men and I am satisfied the work will be well looked after. There was a very large and enthusiastic attendance at the meeting, the hall being crowded. I was accompanied on this occasion by R. W. Bro. Craig, V. W. Bro. Buck, W. Bros. Hoskins and Metcalfe, and Bros. Hooey, Armstrong, McCarthy, McNachtan, Battell and Odell.

Lake Lodge, No. 215 : I was very kindly driven over here from Wellington by W. Bro. Cunningham on the evening of January 31st, 1898, and found a very large attendance considering the very bad weather and the state of the roads, showing great enthusiasm. There were also quite a number of visiting brethren from Belleville, Trenton and Consecon, among the latter being R. W. Bro. Thornton, P. D. D. G. M. The third degree was exemplified in a very creditable manner, all the

officers being very efficient especially the Master, W. Bro. Roblin. The books are in good shape and dues fairly well paid up.

Star-in-the East Lodge, No. 164: I visited this lodge on the evening of February 1st, 1898, and found it well officered, and in good shape. The books are well kept, and dues nearly all paid up. The first degree was exemplified very nicely. The Master, W. Bro. Cunningham, has filled the chair for several years, and is perfectly at home there. There was a very large attendance in spite of the extremely cold weather, and quite a number of visitors from Picton, Consecon and other neighboring lodges.

Percy Lodge, No. 161: Accompanied by R. W. Bro. Craig of Cobourg, and Bros. Fitzgerald, Kemp, Burleigh, and Priory of Colborne, I visited this lodge on the evening of March 2nd, 1898. I found the lodge in excellent working order under the regime of W. Bro. Ewing. One second degree and two thirds were exemplified in an excellent manner, the officers all doing their work admirably. One of the thirds was taken by the Master, W. Bro. Ewing, and one by W. Bro. Humphries, and here as in nearly every lodge in the district the Past Masters turn out well, and are a great assistance in the work.

Tweed Lodge, No. 238: I visited this lodge on the evening of March 4th, 1898, and had the pleasure of the company of W. Bro. O'Flynn and Bro. Sulman of Eureka Lodge, Belleville. There was no work done, but I had the lodge opened and closed in the three degrees, as was my custom in all my visits, and found the officers very well posted in their work. I am sorry to say that this lodge is still holding its meetings in the same room as other societies in spite of all that has been said to them by former D. D. G. M's. They have about \$400.00 in the bank and about \$300.00 in back dues. I strongly recommended them to make an effort to collect these dues, and they would then be in a position to build a hall for themselves. I hope they will succeed in doing this in the near future.

Madoc Lodge, No. 48: I was accompanied on my visit to this lodge on the evening of March 8th, 1898, by Rev. W. Bro. Webster, P. D. D. G. M., of this district, and found a fair turnout in spite of the state of the roads, but there was no work on. Opened and closed in the three degrees, and found the officers to be well informed and capable. The finances of the lodge were in good shape, but dues not as well collected as they should be.

Eureka Lodge, No. 283: I had a very pleasant meeting here on the evening of March 9th, 1898, and saw the first degree exemplified. The officers of this lodge are a credit to the

fraternity, especially the Junior Warden, Bro. Diamond, who gave a lecture on the tracing board as well as I have ever heard it given. The books of this lodge are models, the dues are well paid up, and a good balance is in the hands of the treasurer. I would recommend any young secretary who could get the chance, to get Bro. W. Jeffers Diamond to show him his books, and it cannot help benefiting him. R. W. Bro. Craig and Bro. Battell, of Cobourg, were present at this meeting with me, as well as a large number of visitors from Lake, Moira and the Belleville lodges. One of the features of the evening was a number of selections given by the band, who are all composed of members of the lodge.

Stirling Lodge, No. 69 : I was accompanied by R. W. Bro. Hamilton on my visit to this lodge, and found No. 69 well officered and in very good condition, except for the old fault of back dues. There was to have been a candidate initiated, but on account of bad roads, and his living some distance away, the candidate did not come, so we occupied the evening by having a short lodge of instruction in each degree. The Master, W. Bro. Ferguson, is a painstaking and careful officer, and the prospects of Stirling are bright. R. W. Bro. Shaw was of course present, and is a great help to his lodge.

Consecon Lodge, No. 50 : I visited this lodge on the evening of April 1st, 1898. There was no work on, but I found W. Bro. Arthur and his officers fairly well posted in the work in all three degrees. The dues are fairly well paid up, and lodge is financially comfortable. The Past Masters of this lodge are a great help, especially the I. P. M. Bro. Rowe and R. W. Bro. Thornton.

Franck Lodge, No. 127 : W. Bro. Spencer, of Trent Lodge, kindly drove me out here from Trenton on the evening of April 4th, 1898. I found everything in first-class shape in this lodge, the dues well paid up and a good average attendance. All three degrees were worked by the Master, W. Bro. Barrager, with some assistance in the third by the I. P. M., W. Bro. Consaul. The work was extremely well done, and all the officers were very efficient. The prospects of the lodge are bright, and the manner in which the candidates for the second and third degrees had up their work not only showed them to be intelligent and attentive, but also was an evidence that the members of the lodge take great interest in the proceedings. R. W. Bro. Wilson, of Colborne, P. D. D. G. M., and a number of brethren from the Belleville lodges were present.

Craig Lodge, No. 401 : It gives me very great pleasure to report that I found that this lodge, on the occasion of my visit to it on April 5th, 1898, had come back to its old state of

prosperity as was predicted by my predecessor R. W. Bro. Pringle. The first degree was exemplified in a very creditable manner and the Master W. Bro. Miller and officers are all well up in their work. The dues are well paid up, and the books are in excellent condition. Bro. Bennett the secretary is a very painstaking and efficient officer. I found a very good attendance of Past Masters here, and also had the pleasure of meeting W. Bro. Herrington, and a number of the Napanee brethren.

Moira Lodge, No. 11: I visited this lodge, the oldest one in the district, on the evening of April 6th, 1898. I found a very large amount of business being done by Moira Lodge, and four initiations were conferred at this meeting by the W. M. and his officers, assisted by Past Masters. The chair was taken very efficiently for one initiation by the Master of the Belleville Lodge, W. Bro. Lewis. The work of W. Bro. Lattimer and his officers was excellent, and needs no comment from me. I noticed on this occasion as well as on my other two visits to Belleville that the feeling between the three lodges here is very harmonious, and that friendship and brotherly love prevail. The secretary of the lodge, Bro. H. Austin, assures me that he is making every effort to get the dues collected, and hopes before long to show a great improvement in this respect.

Trent Lodge, No. 38: I visited this lodge on the evening of May 3rd, 1898, and found the Master, W. Bro. McClung, and his officers to be well posted in the working of all three degrees. R. W. Bro. Dench and a number of Past Masters were present who appear to take great interest in the work, especially the I. P. M., W. Bro. Spencer. The books are in very good condition and dues fairly well paid up.

Golden Rule Lodge, No. 126: I visited this lodge on the evening of May 6th, 1898, and found everything in very good order financially, and otherwise. The third degree was conferred by the Master, W. Bro. Bedford, and his officers in a very satisfactory manner, and everything went to show that great interest is taken in the work. There was a fair attendance and a few visitors from Stirling and neighboring lodges.

Marmora Lodge, No. 222: I visited this lodge on the evening of May 31st, 1898, being driven out from Stirling by R. W. Bro. Shaw. I was also accompanied by quite a number of the Stirling brethren. The third degree was very well exemplified by W. Bro. Mawson and his officers. A fair number of Past Masters were present, showing that they take quite an interest in the work. The books are in first-class condition and dues fairly well paid up.

St. John's Lodge, No. 17: This being my mother lodge, I

of course visited it on every occasion that I was in town for the meetings, but did not visit it officially until St. John's night June 24th, 1898, when I had the pleasure of installing the officers for the ensuing year. This lodge has been well officered during the year, and the new officers who have just been installed will look after the interests of the lodge with fidelity, and are well able and willing to carry on the work. St. Johns has not had very much work this last year, but the prospects are bright, and I trust the coming year will be a prosperous one. The books are well kept, but the dues have been allowed to get behind. The new secretary has received instructions to make an extra effort to get them collected, and I think a month or two will show a great improvement in this respect.

DISPENSATIONS.

The following dispensations were issued by Grand Lodge for permission to install officers on another date than that provided by by-laws :

Marmora Lodge, No. 222, to install on December 28, 1897 ; Franck Lodge, No. 127, to install on January 3, 1898, and the following dispensations were issued by me for the purpose of attending divine service : Franck Lodge, No. 127, December 19th, 1897 ; Colborne Lodge, No. 91, June 26th, 1898 ; Marmora Lodge, No. 222, June 26th, 1898.

In conclusion I wish to thank the brethren of Prince Edward District for the honor they conferred upon me at the meeting of Grand Lodge at Brantford in electing me to the honorable position of District Deputy Grand Master ; and also to express my appreciation of the kindness and brotherly love which have been uniformly shown me wherever I have gone throughout the district. I know that I have not filled the position in at all as creditable a manner as a great many of my predecessors, but I can simply say that I have done my duty to the best of my ability. I trust that my successor, whoever he may be, will receive the same treatment as I have. He could not possibly receive better.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

A. R. HARGRAFT, D. D. G. M.,
Prince Edward District, No. 13.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.
 Table Showing the work done in Prince Edward District, No. 13, from June 24th, 1897, to June 24th, 1898.—Continued.

| Number of Lodge. | NAME OF LODGE. | LOCATION. | Members. | | Degrees conferred. | | Admissions. | Restorations. | Resignations. | Suspensions N. P. D. | Suspensions, other causes. | Deceased. | Meetings held. | | | Average attendance of members. | Amount paid for relief. | No of members 12 months in arrears. | Total of all arrears. | Date of last G. L. Return. | Financial Standing. | Prospects of Lodge. | Can W. M. work all degrees. | Insurance. |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------|-------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------|----------------------------|-----------|----------------|----------|------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| | | | Increase during year. | Decrease during year. | E. A. | F. C. | | | | | | | M. M. | Regular. | Emergency. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Total. |
| 11 | Mohra | B. Beville | 152 | 16 | 21 | 16 | 10 | 4 | 5 | 27 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 15 | 15 | 56 | \$232 00 | June, '98 | Good. | Good. | Yes | \$400 00 | |
| 17 | St. John's | Cobourg | 72 | 5 | 15 | 12 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 13 | 17 | 15 | 250 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | No Ins. | |
| 18 | Prince Edward | Pipton | 166 | 6 | 15 | 6 | 10 | 9 | 2 | 12 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 3 | 17 | 60 | 7 | 193 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 2500 00 | |
| 21 | United | Wright | 71 | 23 | 5 | 19 | 18 | 20 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 8 | 19 | 30 | 4 | 7 75 | June, '98 | Good. | Good. | Yes | No Ins. | |
| 27 | Trinity | Trinity | 69 | 10 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 1 | 11 | 19 | 4 | 19 32 | June, '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | No Ins. | |
| 38 | Madoc | Madoc | 77 | 1 | 12 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 7 | 1 | 8 | 15 | 46 | 250 00 | Dec. '96 | Fair. | Fair. | Yes | 500 00 | |
| 50 | Canoe | Canoe | 35 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 2 | 11 | 12 | 5 | 12 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Fair. | Yes | No Ins. | |
| 63 | St. Elizabeth | Stirling | 56 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 12 | 11 | 38 | 225 30 | Dec. '97 | Fair. | Fair. | Yes | 250 00 | |
| 91 | C. Bourne | Colborne | 78 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 13 | 20 | 4 | 110 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Fair. | Yes | 1200 00 | |
| 123 | Th. B. He | Belleville | 136 | 6 | 10 | 5 | 5 | 9 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 12 | 35 | 4 | 132 60 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 1050 00 | |
| 126 | G. H. H. H. | Can. B. Hford. | 41 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 1 | 13 | 14 | 20 | 60 00 | June, '98 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 300 00 | |
| 127 | Frank | Frankfort | 70 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 1 | 12 | 10 | 4 | 20 00 | Dec. '97 | Fair. | Fair. | Yes | 300 00 | |
| 161 | Percy | Warkworth | 57 | 7 | 13 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 12 | 10 | 7 | 35 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 650 00 | |
| 164 | St. Nicholas | Wellington | 52 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 1 | 10 | 20 | 3 | 5 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 400 00 | |
| 215 | Loke | A. O. O. O. O. | 52 | 1 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 13 | 17 | 18 | 70 28 | Dec. '97 | Fair. | Fair. | Yes | 1000 00 | |
| 222 | Mary | Mary | 52 | 1 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 1 | 10 | 20 | 12 | 3 00 | Dec. '97 | Fair. | Fair. | Yes | 200 00 | |
| 229 | Tweed | Tweed | 61 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 29 | 10 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Fair. | Yes | No Ins. | |
| 283 | Eureka | Belleville | 62 | 5 | 10 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 21 | 10 | 37 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Bi-gt. | Yes | 800 00 | |
| 401 | Craig | D. S. O. O. O. | 54 | 11 | 2 | 11 | 10 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 5 | 17 | 16 | 7 | 31 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 800 00 | |

FRONTENAC DISTRICT, No. 14.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

M. W. SIR AND BRETHREN,

I beg herewith to submit my report on the condition of Freemasonry in the district during 1897-98.

I wish here to thank the brethren for the high honor conferred on me by electing me unanimously to the responsible position of D. D. G. M., more especially so on account of my unavoidable absence from Grand Lodge last year. Throughout all my official visits and duties there has been extended to me the greatest kindness and courtesy by all the members of the craft in the district. Through illness I was unable to visit two of the lodges in the district which I deeply regretted.

I have not mentioned especially any of the names of the brethren who so kindly assisted me in my various visits to the lodges in the district, but this I can say that with one exception I did not pay an official visit unless accompanied by at least three of the craft. I never had any trouble to get some to go with me, on the contrary I always had any number who were willing and wanted to visit the lodges in the district. This I take as a good sign of the friendship and brotherly love existing amongst the Masons in the district, and I can safely say on behalf of myself and those who went with me to the various lodges that we were received everywhere most loyally and treated right royally. The brethren of the outlying lodges in the district appreciate very much a visit from those in the city, and it tends a great deal towards the good of our order throughout the whole jurisdiction. Everywhere I went I received that honor due to me as a humble representative of the Grand Lodge. I have tried to impress on all the lodges the great necessity of keeping the amount of arrears in dues down as low as possible; to have their lodge (if they own it) and their regalia, etc., well insured; to have their books, especially in one or two instances their register, kept in proper condition.

I am glad to say that throughout the district the best of harmony prevails. The brethren in the city have had a great

deal of pleasure and also instruction from two lectures given by M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, who spent a great amount of time and labor in preparing the same.

At the request of the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, I had the honour to constitute and consecrate Westport Lodge, No. 441 Westport, on October 14th, 1897. I was accompanied by several brethren from Kingston, Brockville was also well represented. I was glad to see so many brethren from Simpson Lodge present, as the formation of Westport Lodge naturally effected the strength of the lodge at Newboro as all the charter members of the new lodge belonged to the latter one. The prospects for this lodge are very bright, and I think it was a very wise move in the right direction in forming a lodge here. The officers are all capable in their work and most enthusiastic for the welfare of their lodge. They are in possession of a very good lodge room. R. W. Bro. H. J. Wilkinson kindly installed the Worshipful Master and assisted the officers.

I visited my mother lodge "The Ancient St. John's," twice. First in November, 1897, when the Worshipful Master assisted by all his officers put on in a most excellent manner a first degree, and part of a third. There was a splendid attendance, especially of brethren from the other city lodges. I am glad to report that the Past Masters of "The Ancient St. John's" take a great deal of interest in their lodge, and evince it by their great regularity in attending the meetings.

Again in June I visited this lodge and saw the third degree worked by the Worshipful Master. Every officer was present, and each did his work in a highly creditable manner. The Worshipful Master upholds his position well and is ably seconded by his Wardens and other officers. All the meetings in the past year have been very well attended.

Minden Lodge, No. 253: I paid my first official visit on November 2nd; there were present 29 members and 8 visitors. I had the pleasure of seeing the second degree put on by the I. P. M. in a very satisfactory manner. The dues in this lodge are in a very satisfactory condition. This being one of the city lodges, I have had the opportunity of seeing the work done there several times unofficially, and can bear record to its high standing. It is especially fortunate in possessing such a member as P. D. D. G. M. F. Welch, whose enthusiasm for Masonry is well known. Again, accompanied by the M. W. the Grand Master, I paid a visit to this lodge on June 7th. It was their regular meeting, but through the kindness of the Worshipful Master it was made a joint meeting of the three city lodges. The attendance was splendid, over one hundred and fifty of the craft being present. The Worshipful Master of Minden

Lodge conferred the first degree in a most able manner, and equally seconded by all his officers. The brethren of the other two city lodges turned out in good strength, which went greatly to prove the great equanimity and good brotherly love which exists here in the city. M. W. Bro. D. C. Fraser, Past Grand Master of Nova Scotia, was present, and at the banquet which was held afterwards gave the brethren of Kingston one of the best Masonic addresses ever listened to. It was a very great pleasure to all the Kingston Masons and myself to have such a splendid meeting for the M. W. the Grand Master.

Cataraqui Lodge, No. 92 : Nov. 10th, 1897, I paid my official visit to this lodge. There was a very good attendance of the brethren, also a large number of visitors. The Worshipful Master, ably assisted by his officers, who were all present, opened up the lodge to the third degree, when he conferred the third or sublime degree in a manner which was a pleasure for any D. D. G. M. to listen to. I think it is of great advantage to any lodge to have once and awhile one of their Past Masters placed again in the east. I congratulate the lodge on having such an efficient officer as their secretary, R. W. Bro. R. Hendry, Jr. His books are admirably kept.

Maple Leaf Lodge, No. 119, Bath : This lodge, one of the oldest in the district, has not made much progress during the past year ; still as regards its financial standing it is fairly good. The night of my visit was one of the worst in the winter season, the roads were in a terrible condition, but still there was a fair attendance, some brethren having come thirteen miles to be present. They have some very enthusiastic members amongst their Past Masters. Their prospects for increasing their number seem now to be brighter.

Prince Arthur Lodge, No. 228, Odessa : I was present at their regular meeting but unfortunately they had no work. They have a very capable Master and he is ably assisted by good officers. I agree with R. W. Bro. Aylsworth that this lodge is now going ahead : financially it is in a very good condition. Their meetings have been fairly well attended, and the greatest harmony prevails amongst all the members.

Elysian Lodge, No. 212, Garden Island : This is the most peculiarly situated lodge in the district, being on an island where there is not much change in the population and not so much chance for increasing their membership, but still there is in no lodge in the district more enthusiastic Masons. The attendance at their meetings is good, and the manner in which they do their work is excellent. Their books are well kept. I am strongly of the same opinion as my predecessor that this lodge should still remain on the registry of the Grand Lodge.

What may be wanting in strength of numbers is made up fully by the strong interest taken by their officers and members.

On March 4th I visited Albion Lodge, No. 109, and was glad to see the way they conducted their work. The Worshipful Master, with the able assistance of his officers, did the work in the first degree in a very creditable manner. This lodge is in a very good condition, and I believe a great deal is due to their very worthy Secretary, who has been at his place in the lodge for over twenty years. His books are a credit to many a city lodge. Considering the weather and the state of the roads the attendance was very good.

One of the most enthusiastic and largest attended meetings was at Union Lodge, No. 9, Napanee. This lodge has for officers all Past Masters, a plan which I think once and a while is of great benefit. A first degree was done in almost perfect form. A large number of visitors from the surrounding lodges were present. I had the great pleasure to have with me M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, P. G. M., who gave a most interesting and instructive lecture on Masonry, which was listened to with a great deal of pleasure and highly appreciated by all, especially on account of the valuable information given to those who had the privilege of hearing it. The Most Worshipful Brother also answered quite a few questions put by the brethren present. This lodge is in a very good condition with the exception of too large an amount of outstanding dues, to which I called their most serious consideration.

Leeds Lodge, Gananoque, was in a very prosperous condition on my visit there. Though they had no degrees to perform, what I saw of the manner in which they opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees, the work of the Worshipful Master and the closeness that the Senior Warden attended to his duties was to me a great pleasure. I especially admired his strictness as regards to the vouching of brethren present in the lodge. Here I had the pleasure of answering several questions concerning their lodge in particular and the craft in general, a precedent which I think would be of great advantage to all lodges.

Lorne Lodge, No. 375, Tamworth : At their regular meeting on the 10th, of June, I paid my official visit. As there was no work to be done, I asked the W. M. to open and close his lodge in the three degrees. This was done in a very fair manner. Most of the officers were present. This lodge has two very worthy and zealous brethren as secretary and treasurer, both of whom take a very active interest in the lodge.

Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 146, Newburgh : On my official

visit to this lodge I was sorry to find such a small attendance, which however was explained by there being counter attractions in the place. There being no work to be done, the Worshipful Master opened and closed the lodge for me in the three degrees, in a passable manner. I had the pleasure of renewing my acquaintance with their worthy secretary, my predecessor R. W. Bro. G. Anson, Aylsworth, who keeps his books and records in a very capable manner.

In every lodge in the district the last but not least were the enjoyable moments spent after the meeting closed around the festive board. It is in this social aspect of the meeting that in some ways we seem to come closer together as brothers, no restraint between Grand Lodge officers and the humblest brother. Some of the pleasantest hours I have ever spent have been with my brethren while enjoying their hospitality.

I am glad to be able to hand over to my successor an untarnished regalia, as suggested by the brethren present at the last meeting of Grand Lodge I purchased a new one, and the same has been paid for by the district.

During my term of office I issued four dispensations for the purpose of attending divine service.

Before concluding my report I must again thank my brethren throughout the district for their kindness and attention to me in all my official duties, and especially to those brethren who so kindly went with me on visits to the outlying lodges.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

W. H. MACNEE, D. D. G. M.,

Frontenac District, No. 14.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.
Table Showing the work done in Frontenac District, No. 14, from June 24th, 1897, to June 24th, 1898.

| Number of Lodge. | NAME OF Lodge. | LOCATION. | Membership | | Degrees conf'd | | Affiliations. | Restorations. | Resignations. | N. P. D. | Suspended, other causes. | Deceased. | Meetings held. | | | Average attendance of members. | Amount paid for relief. | No. of members 12 months in arrears. | Total of all Arrears. | Date of last G. L. Return. | Financial Standing. | Projects of Lodge. | Can. W. M. work all degrees. | Insurance. |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------|---------------|---------------|---------------|----------|--------------------------|-----------|----------------|--------|----------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|------------|
| | | | Increase during year. | Decrease during year. | E. A. | F. C. | | | | | | | M. M. | Total. | Regular. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | Emergency. |
| 3 | The A. S. M. | Kingston | 145 | 1 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 44 | 33 | \$65.00 | 19 | \$9.60 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 1 of 1700 | | |
| 9 | Union | Napanee | 86 | 5 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 19 | 15.00 | 23 | 331.00 | June, '98 | All right. | Good. | Yes | 500.00 | | |
| 92 | Cataraqui | Kingston | 108 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 25 | 45.00 | 25 | 228.63 | Dec., '97 | Fair. | Good. | Yes | 500.00 | | |
| 169 | Albion | Barrowsmith. | 51 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 10 | 13.00 | 20 | 80.00 | Dec., '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 600.00 | | |
| 119 | Maple Leaf | Bath | 26 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 8 | 30.00 | 4 | 8.00 | Dec., '97 | Fair. | Fair. | Yes | 600.00 | | |
| 146 | Pr. of Wales | Newburg | 42 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 10 | 85.00 | 10 | 26.00 | June, '98 | Solvent. | Brighter. | Yes | 100.00 | | |
| 157 | Sinison | Newboro | 59 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 20 | 16.00 | 21 | 91.00 | June, '98 | A I | Good. | Yes | 300.00 | | |
| 201 | Leeds | Gananoque | 82 | 11 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 13 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 30 | ..... | 7 | 31.00 | June, '98 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 600.00 | | |
| 212 | Elysiian | Garden Island. | 30 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 11 | ..... | 10 | 15.00 | June, '97 | Good. | Fair. | Yes | ..... |  |  |
| 228 | Pr. Arthur. | Odessa | 34 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 13 | ..... | 2 | 1.00 | June, '98 | Good. | Good. | Yes | ..... |  |  |
| 253 | Minden | Kingston | 72 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 14 | 35.00 | 10 | 60.00 | June, '98 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 1 of 1700 | | |
| 299 | Victoria | Centreville | 40 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 10 | ..... | 10 | 46.00 | Dec., '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 300.00 | | |
| 404 | Lorne | Tamworth | 34 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 12 | ..... | 5 | 28.00 | June, '98 | Fair. | Fair. | Yes | 130.00 | | |
| 111 | Westport | Westport | 28 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 23 | 13 | ..... | 11 | 28.00 | June, '98 | Fair. | Good. | Yes | None. | | |

ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT, No. 15.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I take much pleasure in submitting to you my report on the condition of Masonry in the fifteenth Masonic District, during my term of office as D. D. G. M. for 1897-8.

As District Secretary I appointed Wor. Bro. E. A. Geiger, P. M. of Salem Lodge, No. 368, who rendered me valuable assistance, on the occasion of several of my official visits.

The year has been marked by a fair degree of prosperity, though not so great as I could have wished it to be. The greatest of harmony prevails among the brethren of the different lodges, none being jealous of the other, but rejoicing in the prosperity, and continually repeating and accepting the invitation to visit sister lodges. I tried to impress upon the officers and members the good effect these frequent visits have had upon the brethren, not only in good fellowship, but in bringing about uniformity of work.

The brethren of St Lawrence District, No. 15, having done me the honor of electing me D. D. G. M. at the last annual communication of Grand Lodge, held at the city of Brantford in July last, I offer the assurance of my most fraternal regard, and express my sincere friendship, brotherly love and thanks for the confidence so placed in me.

The hearty co-operation promised me by the brethren at my election has been faithfully carried out, and having visited every lodge in the district I was received with the greatest respect and courtesy ; and with my predecessor am happy to report that with a few exceptions, Masonry is in a flourishing condition.

I was much encouraged by the number of Past Masters present at the different lodges on the occasion of my visits. The presence of Past Masters must certainly have the effect of encouraging the Masters and officers to perform their work more efficiently than if left to perform their duties unassisted, and in every instance I asked not only the Past Masters but members of the lodges to encourage the officers by their presence.

The work done, as will be shown in the reports or separate lodges, by the Worshipful Masters, is done with uniformity. The differences now noticeable are principally due to nervousness, and by the encouragement of the Past D. D. G. M's. has had the effect of producing accuracy and impressiveness in conferring degrees. The work of most of the Masters and Wardens, and in many instances the subordinate officers, is well done. The lectures as delivered by some of the Wardens are very impressive. In all cases where noticeable errors or innovations were made they were corrected.

EXAMINATIONS.

The examination of candidates is usually done very carefully, but occasionally a candidate is passed on the plea of nervousness. I have impressed upon the Wor. Master not only to require accuracy in answers, but to follow the example of Salem Lodge and a few others and include the obligation as part of the examination in each degree. Although this is not called for in the work, it is my opinion that it should be.

Most of the lodges have suitable and commodious rooms, neatly furnished, a few I may say handsomely furnished.

With very few exceptions the rooms are comfortable, many having banquet hall attached.

INSURANCE.

A few of the lodges are yet without fire insurance on their furniture and regalia, but the majority are well insured, and the others promise to place a sufficient amount on their furnishings to insure against loss.

BENEVOLENCE.

A glance at the table showing work done in this district will show that some of the lodges are not forgetting the needy, and the large amounts expended for benevolence speak loudly in their praise. May other lodges take a lesson from these, and extend the good work.

ENTERTAINMENT.

I was not only well received by the lodges, but with the exception of those whom I requested not to provide for anything special, I was well and hospitably entertained. In some cases with light refreshments, in others refreshments interspersed with song and speeches, and in a few right royally banquetted, toasted and entertained with vocal and instrumental music, and I can safely say that in all my visits everything passed off most harmoniously.

STANDING.

Of the twenty-three lodges in the district fourteen are good strong lodges, six moderately strong and three weak.

Of the three weak ones, one (Lyn Lodge, No. 416), has always been in good condition, except in outstanding dues. The officers are energetic and able to perform their work well. I cannot attribute their temporary weakness to anything but lack of applications, and material to work upon. I believe that the lodge will regain its vigor in the near future, and again take its place among the moderately strong.

DISPENSATIONS.

The M. W. the Grand Master issued dispensations to St. James Lodge, No. 74, to instal their officers on Dec. 29th, 1897; to Friendly Brothers Lodge, No. 143, to instal officers on January 5th, 1898; to Maxville Lodge, No. 418, to instal officers on January 11th, 1898; to Rising Sun Lodge, No. 85, to instal officers on February 3rd, 1898; to Harmony Lodge, No. 370, to instal officers on June 29th, 1898; and to Cornwall Lodge, No. 125, to hold an At Home and wear regalia on February, 1898.

The D. D. G. M. issued dispensation to attend Divine service, clothed in regalia, to the following lodges: Rising Sun Lodge, No. 85, on December 26th, 1897; Macoy Lodge, No. 242, on June 19th, 1898; Friendly Brothers Lodge, No. 143, on June 19th, 1898; Merrickville Lodge, No. 55, on June 26th, 1898, and Sussex Lodge, No. 5, on June 26th, 1898.

VISITATIONS.

Sussex Lodge, No. 5, Brockville: I visited this lodge at a regular meeting held on March 21st, one of the largest and best meetings I had. Among the Past Masters present were R. W. Bros. Thos. Wilkinson, J. H. Jackson, A. L. Riddell, P. D. D. G. Masters V. Wor. Bros. D. Derbyshire, G. H. Westherhead, W. Bro. L. De Carle and W. Bro. G. K. Dewey. W. Bro. Thos. Dowell, I. P. M., occupied the chair in the absence of the Worshipful Master, W. Bro. Thos. H. Parsley, who was unavoidably absent. Being personally acquainted with W. Bro. Parsley and his officers, and having visited Sussex Lodge on different occasions, I can confidently state that they can competently work the different degrees. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. The financial standing of the lodge is excellent. The secretary's books are neatly and correctly kept, and the lodge should be congratulated on having so efficient an officer as W. Bro. Dewey as a

permanent secretary, and by the conscientious performance of his duties he merits the esteem and applause of his brethren. This lodge is one of the best and strongest in the district. I am glad to say that steps are being taken by this lodge, and its sister Lodge Salem, No. 468, to bind together the brethren in love and harmony by meeting in one lodge room, as it should have been since the inauguration of Salem Lodge just about twenty years ago.

True Britons, No. 14, Perth: At an emergent meeting, held on Tuesday April 26th, I visited this lodge accompanied by R. W. Bro. J. H. Houston P. D. D. G. M., V. Wor. Bro. D. Derbyshire, W. Bro. E. A. Geiger, J. A. Dodds, W. H. Wadell, M. D., Wm. Hyndman, Thos. Jones and S. N. Percival. There were thirty-six present in all. There being no work on hand, the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, but owing to nervousness on the part of the Worshipful Master a few skips were made. Otherwise it was fairly well done. The books are neatly kept, and the lodge is in excellent financial standing, having a cash balance on hand of \$324 82 on Jan. 1st, 1898. The lodge room is neat and comfortable, and contains some valuable Masonic relics, in ancient regalia.

St. Francis Lodge, No. 24, Smiths Falls: I was asked to instal the officers of this lodge on Dec. 27th, 1897, which I did, assisted by W. Bro. E. A. Geiger. The installation ceremony took place in the afternoon, with a good attendance, and the evening was reserved for the annual at-home, which was carried out with grand success by the officers and brethren, accompanied by their wives and lady friends. The books under the usual careful supervision of R. W. Bro. Houston, P. D. D. G. M., are kept in excellent condition. The lodge room is well furnished. The newly installed officers are well up in the work, and promise excellent work for the year.

Mount Zion Lodge, No. 28, Kemptville: I visited this lodge at an emergent meeting held on June 7th, 1898. There was in attendance twenty-two, including a few visitors. I was indebted to R. Wor. Bro. Bascom, P. D. D. G. M., and Wor. Bro. W. H. Bottum, for an exceedingly pleasant visit. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, and a first degree conferred upon a candidate in an especially good manner, in fact the best I have ever witnessed, each and every officer doing his work perfectly. The secretary, W. Bro. W. H. Bottum, keeps his books in excellent condition. The lodge room is very neatly furnished. I would recommend the officers of other lodges to visit this lodge and take a lesson from the manner in which the work of conferring degrees is performed.

Merrickville Lodge, No. 55, Merrickville: At an emergent

meeting, I visited this lodge, accompanied by W. Bro. W. H. Waddell, W. M. of Crystal Fountain Lodge, No. 389. There were seventeen brethren present, including two visitors. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, and the first degree exemplified in a good manner, and the officers of this year are taking a greater interest in supporting the W. M. than was reported of them last year. The secretary's books are well kept.

St. James Lodge, No. 74, Bethel; I visited St. James Lodge at a regular meeting held on June 6th, 1898. There were eighteen members and four visitors present. The work of the evening was the opening and closing in the three degrees which were fairly well done, considering that they have very little practice. They have had no applications during the year. The financial standing of the lodge is very good, and they expect to clear themselves of the small debt still on the building during the coming year; they will then own the building they occupy, and be free of debt. The books they have are well kept, but they have no register to record the membership, officers of each, and Grand Lodge report etc., and I recommend that they purchase one as soon as possible.

Rising Sun Lodge, No. 85, Athens: I visited this lodge at a regular meeting held on March 31st, 1898, accompanied by W. Bro. Geo. K. Dewey. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees in a fair manner. The books are fair and the lodge room neatly furnished. The officers seem to take an interest in the work of the lodge, but do not receive the encouragement of the members.

Central Lodge, No. 110, Prescott: Accompanied by a number of Brockville brethren, I visited this lodge at an emergent meeting held on April 4th, 1898. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees and four candidates initiated. The manner in which these candidates were initiated shows that the W. M. and officers take a great deal of interest in their work, as it was well done. This lodge has had a good year, and I predict a prosperous future for it. Everything is in good order.

Cornwall Lodge, No. 125, Cornwall: I paid a visit to this lodge at an emergent meeting held on March 3rd, 1898. There were thirty brethren present, including three visitors. The business of the evening was the conferring of the third degree. The work was well and creditably done. The books and lodge room are kept in first-class style, the furniture having been re-upholstered. An act which I commend is the furnishing of a private ward in the Cornwall General Hospital. Financial standing of the lodge is good and prospects for the future bright.

Excelsior Lodge, No. 142, Morrisburg : I visited this lodge on June 2nd, 1898, at an emergent meeting, with twenty-eight members present. As there was no work on hand the W. M. was requested to open and close the lodge in the different degrees, which was done well by the W. M., but his officers seemingly do not show the interest necessary to the performance of good work. The books are well and neatly kept.

Friendly Brothers' Lodge, No. 143, Iroquois. I visited this lodge at an emergent meeting held on June 3rd, 1898. There were in all forty-one brethren present. The first degree was exemplified and the work exceptionally well done. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees. The secretary's books are well kept. There is a bright future for this lodge as the members are enthusiastic, and interest themselves in its welfare.

Lancaster Lodge, No. 207, Lancaster : I visited Lancaster Lodge on March 2nd, 1898, accompanied by Bro. E. H. Bisset of Salem Lodge and we were very hospitably received and royally entertained. At this meeting there were fifty brethren present, of which a goodly number were from Fort Covington, N. Y. The first and third degrees were conferred and the officers proved themselves proficient in the working of the different degrees. The lodge room is very neatly furnished, and the books well kept. The bright future predicted by my predecessor seems to have materialized, as they have initiated twelve members during the year.

Macy Lodge, No. 242, Mallorytown : Was visited by me on Jan. 31st, 1898, accompanied by W. Bro. E. A. Cumming of Lyn. There were ten members and one visitor present. This lodge does not seem to be prospering. As the S. W. and J. W. were both absent the chairs were filled by W. Bros. E. A. Cumming and R. L. Booth. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, but I am unable to determine whether the officers could perform their work, except the W. M., who did his work fairly well.

Farran's Point Lodge, No. 256, Farran's Point : I visited this lodge at a regular meeting on June 1st, 1898. There were twenty-five brethren present, including a few visitors. The candidate for initiation was unavoidably detained, and in consequence there was no work. The officers performed the work in opening and closing the lodge in the three degrees very well and with confidence. The lodge room is neatly furnished and the books well kept.

Chesterville Lodge, No. 320, Chesterville : I paid my official visit to this lodge at an emergent meeting on June 9th, 1898. There were thirty-three brethren present. The third

degree was conferred upon a candidate, in a very satisfactory manner, the officers each taking their part well. The membership is increasing rapidly, they having added by initiation during the year fourteen members. Under the careful guidance of the secretary, V. W. Bro. Gillespie, the interests of this lodge are well guarded, as is shown by the work done, and the good average attendance. The only drawback to the lodge is the large amount of outstanding dues, and large number of members twelve months or more in arrears.

Salem Lodge, No. 368, Brockville: This lodge which I visited on April 11th, 1898, being my mother lodge I naturally take a great interest in its welfare, and am glad to say that I can like my predecessors report good work being done in it. The membership has not increased as rapidly this year as in some former years, but may be accounted for by the carefulness with which their material is selected. The officers' work, as was established by the excellence and smoothness in which the third degree was conferred upon a candidate on this occasion, is well done. The Wor. Master and officers, with the exception of one or two subordinate officers, take pride in keeping themselves thoroughly posted in the work. The lodge has a fair average attendance. I had much pleasure in meeting at this lodge W. Bro. Waddell of Crystal Fountain Lodge, W. Bro. Geo. Rook, W. Bro. Drummond of Prescott, W. Bros. Wm. Stafford and M. Brown of Lyn.

Harmony Lodge, No. 370, Delta: I visited this lodge on May 20th, 1898. Among the brethren present were Wor. Bros. G. T. Reynolds and James Gorrell of Westport Lodge; W. Bro. L. S. Lewis of Simpson Lodge. There were fifty-one brethren present, a number being from Simpson and Westport Lodges. The members of Harmony Lodge are enthusiastic Masons. They have a good number of well posted Past Masters. The officers were all in their chairs and performed the ceremony of conferring the third degree excellently. The lodge is in good financial condition, owning the building they occupy, have no debt and a good amount of cash in the treasury. Dues are well paid up, they having only \$8.00 outstanding. Average attendance is large. True to its name, says the secretary, harmony prevails.

Henderson Lodge, No. 383, Winchester: Visited this lodge on June 8th, at an emergent meeting. There were fourteen brethren present including one visitor. The second degree was conferred upon a candidate, and the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, and was fairly well done. The W. M. performs his work fairly well, but he does not receive the support of his officers and of the brethren to which he is en-

titled. The lodge room is not suitable for the purpose, being badly ventilated, and poorly furnished. I was informed that they were making arrangements to remove to new rooms, and they would then place better furniture in the rooms also carpet the lodge room.

Lansdowne Lodge, No. 387, Lansdowne: This lodge was visited on April 30th, 1898, with very few brethren in attendance, having barely a quorum at the opening of the lodge. W. Bro. C. J. Young is trying hard to keep the lodge in existence, but he has very little support, and it does not prosper. The lodge has held but eight regular meetings and conferred one degree. My belief is that the lodge is too near Mallorytown Lodge and by their nearness keep both lodges weak. The lodge room is poorly furnished; they have a bad system of bookkeeping and not well kept. They will require a generous amount of hard work to place it on a proper footing.

Crystal Fountain Lodge, No. 389, North Augusta: Visited on Wednesday, April 6th, 1898. There were twenty-two brethren present, including among the visitors W. Bro. George Gale, of Salem Lodge, No. 368, and W. Bro. R. Angus, of Merrickville Lodge, No. 55. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, and the third degree conferred upon a candidate in a very creditable manner, the W. M. and officers being well up in the work. The weakness in the support of the W. M. by the officers reported by my predecessor has been remedied. The lodge room has been renovated and considerable new furniture added. The improvements referred to in the report by the last D. D. G. M. have been completed, which add a commodious banqueting hall and kitchen. The rooms have also been enlarged.

Lyn Lodge, No. 416, Lyn: Visited this lodge on February 8th, 1898, at an emergent meeting, accompanied by V. Wor. Bro. D. Derbyshire, W. Bro. E. A. Geiger, and W. Bro. T. Dowell. There were thirty brethren present, including twelve visitors. The officers are all enthusiastic and able to do proficient work, but owing to lack of material they have had nothing to do during this year. Their principal officers are frequent visitors to Sussex and Salem Lodges at Brockville. The lodge-room, though on the small side, is comfortable and neatly furnished. The books are well kept. At the close of the meeting the brethren were requested to adjourn to the Workmen's hall where a substantial banquet had been prepared by the wives and lady friends of the members of the lodge.

Maxville Lodge, No. 418, Maxville: I visited Maxville Lodge on June 10th, 1898, at an emergent meeting. There

were thirty-eight brethren present, including three visitors. They have a very pleasant lodge-room, neatly furnished. I was met at the station and welcomed by the Wor. Master and V. Wor. Bro. Samuel Henry. There being no work on hand the lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, the Wor. Master and officers being proficient in the work. At the close of the lodge a very pleasant banquet was given, at which the wives and lady friends took part and a very pleasant evening was spent.

Alexandria Lodge, No. 439, Alexandria: I received instructions from the M. Wor. Bro. William Gibson, Grand Master, to constitute and consecrate Alexandria Lodge, No. 439, Alexandria. Also received a warrant for that lodge. I arranged with Alexandria Lodge to perform the ceremony on December 1st, 1897. On December 1st, 1897, accompanied by W. Bro. E. A. Geiger, went to Alexandria, and with the assistance of V. Wor. Bro. Samuel Henry, W. Bro. E. A. Munroe constituted and consecrated Alexandria Lodge, No. 439, after which I was assisted by W. Bro. Geiger in installing the officers. The lodge was opened and closed in the three degrees, and the first degree exemplified. The officers are enthusiastic, and able to do the work well. The lodge room was only partially furnished, but they expect in the near future to place it in better condition. Their regalia and jewels are good, and if the rooms are furnished in accordance, they will soon have a pleasant place. They are doing good work, and are increasing their membership rapidly. Wor. Bro. E. H. Tiffany and Bro. ——— who are acting Wor. Master and Senior Warden in the absence of the proper officers are excellent officers and are doing good work. I bespeak a bright future for this lodge.

In conclusion, I again desire to convey to the brethren my warm appreciation of the many kindnesses extended to me during my term of office.

I have endeavored to prove that the confidence of my brethren was not misplaced, by paying attention to my duty, and in every way promoting the success of the craft.

I am glad to be relieved of the responsibility but am sorry to part officially from my brethren, for it has been a pleasure to visit each and every lodge in the district at least once.

I hope and trust that the genuine tenets of our time honored institution may be transmitted through these lodges, pure and unimpaired from generation to generation.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

T. A. STAYNER, D. D. G. M.,
St. Lawrence District, No. 15.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & M. A. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in St. Lawrence District, No. 15, from June 21th, 1897, to June 24th, 1898.

| Number of Lodge. | NAME OF LODGE. | LOCATION. | Mem-ber-ship. | | Degree's conf'rd | | Affiliations. | Restorations. | Resignations. | Suspensions, N. P. D. | Suspen-sions, other causes. | Deceased. | Meet-ings held. | | | Average attendance of members. | Amount paid for relief. | No. of members 12 months in arrears. | Total or all Arrears. | Date of last G. L. Return. | Financial Standings. | Prospects of Lodge. | Can W. M. work all degrees. | Insurance. | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------------|----------|-----------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------|---------|
| | | | Total No. of all Mem. | Increase during year. | E. A. | F. C. | | | | | | | M. M. | Regular. | Emergent. | | | | | | | | | | Total. |
| 5 | Sussex..... | Brockville..... | 146 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 11 | 26 | 256 00 | 26 | 256 00 | 26 | 131 00 | Dec. 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | \$ 1200 00 | |
| 14 | True Brit's Perth..... | Perth..... | 94 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 11 | 19 | 26 00 | 25 | 265 00 | 25 | 265 00 | Dec. 97 | Good. | Very fair. | Yes | 700 00 | |
| 24 | St. Francis Smith's Falls..... | Smith's Falls..... | 95 | 7 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 15 | 26 | 223 50 | 4 | 223 50 | 4 | 15 00 | Dec. 97 | Good. | Exc. H. L. | Yes | 500 00 | |
| 28 | Mt. Zion Kempsville..... | Kempsville..... | 30 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 5 | 17 | 5 00 | 4 | 5 00 | 4 | 21 00 | Dec. 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 300 00 | |
| 35 | Merricky T. Merrickville..... | Merrickville..... | 56 | 3 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 11 | 11 | 15 | 7 00 | 11 | 7 00 | 11 | 40 75 | Dec. 97 | Fair. | F. A. R. | None. | None. | |
| 74 | St. James Bethel..... | Bethel..... | 36 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 13 | 13 | 21 50 | 10 | 21 50 | 10 | 21 50 | Dec. 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 700 00 | |
| 85 | Rising Sun Athens..... | Athens..... | 91 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 12 | 15 | 67 50 | 12 | 67 50 | 12 | 79 50 | Dec. 97 | F. R. | Fair. | Yes | 300 00 | |
| 110 | Central Prescott..... | Prescott..... | 54 | 1 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 216 | 57 | 67 50 | 18 | 67 50 | 18 | 79 50 | Dec. 97 | Good. | Excellent | Yes | 750 00 | |
| 125 | Cornwall Cornwall..... | Cornwall..... | 70 | 12 | 1 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 317 | 20 | 145 00 | 38 | 145 00 | 38 | 29 00 | June 96 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 900 00 | |
| 142 | Excelsior Morrisburg..... | Morrisburg..... | 80 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 112 | 18 | 75 00 | 3 | 75 00 | 3 | 2 60 | June 96 | Good. | Fair. | Yes | 600 00 | |
| 143 | Friendly B. Toronto..... | Toronto..... | 63 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 14 | 216 | 15 | 11 00 | 7 | 11 00 | 7 | 77 75 | Dec. 97 | Fair. | Fair. | Yes | 500 00 | |
| 207 | Laucaster Lancaster..... | Lancaster..... | 45 | 14 | 12 | 12 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 518 | 19 | 11 00 | 9 | 11 00 | 9 | 33 00 | Dec. 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 700 00 | |
| 242 | Macoy Mallorytown..... | Mallorytown..... | 33 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 7 | 12 | 57 00 | 20 | 57 00 | 20 | 90 00 | Dec. 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 1000 00 | |
| 256 | Evan's Pt Farran's Point..... | Farran's Point..... | 64 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 12 | 15 | 57 00 | 30 | 57 00 | 30 | 40 00 | Dec. 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 300 00 | |
| 320 | Chesterwile Chesterville..... | Chesterville..... | 88 | 17 | 2 | 15 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 6 | 19 | 33 | 150 00 | 30 | 157 00 | 30 | 157 00 | Dec. 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 700 00 |
| 368 | Salom Brockville..... | Brockville..... | 97 | 5 | 8 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 6 | 20 | 26 | 21 80 | 24 | 129 70 | 24 | 129 70 | Dec. 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 1800 00 |
| 370 | Harmony Delta..... | Delta..... | 62 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 114 | 22 | 11 00 | 1 | 11 00 | 1 | 8 00 | June 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 500 00 | |
| 383 | Henderson Winchester..... | Winchester..... | 12 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 14 | 13 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | Dec. 97 | Good. | Improvd | No | ..... |  |
| 387 | Lansdowne Lansdowne..... | Lansdowne..... | 17 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 9 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | Dec. 96 | Good. | Good. | Yes | ..... |  |
| 389 | Crystal F'n North Augusta..... | North Augusta..... | 39 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 10 | 15 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | Dec. 97 | Fair. | Fair. | Yes | 550 00 | |
| 416 | Lynn Lynn..... | Lynn..... | 30 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 1 | 9 | 11 | 5 00 | 16 | 188 95 | 16 | 188 95 | Dec. 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | Yes |
| 418 | Maxville Maxville..... | Maxville..... | 47 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 13 | 12 | 5 00 | 14 | 5 00 | 14 | 12 81 | Dec. 97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | ..... |  |
| 439 | Alexandria Alexandria..... | Alexandria..... | 38 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 14 | 11 | 13 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | June 95 | Good. | Good. | Yes | ..... |  |

OTTAWA DISTRICT, NO. 16.

To the M. W. the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit for your consideration the following report on the condition of Masonry in the Ottawa District. I am happy to be able to report that with one or two exceptions the lodges throughout the district are in a most prosperous condition and that harmony prevails amongst the brethren.

There are eighteen lodges in the district, and during the past year I have paid an official visit to every lodge once, and one lodge I visited twice. In most of the lodges which I visited I had the opportunity of witnessing degrees conferred in the lodge on the night of my official visit, and where I found that there was no work on for the evening I had the W. M. open and close the lodge in the three degrees. In this way I have had very good opportunity of judging the character of the work as performed in each lodge, and as to the fitness of the officers for their positions, I found in every instance that the W. M. was capable of conferring the degrees, and in some cases the work was of a high order and deserving of commendation. The work as carried on throughout the district is uniform and in accordance with the regulations of the Grand Lodge. In some cases the floor work was not as good as might be expected. This, in some instances, I attributed to nervousness. When I deemed it necessary I instructed the brethren in the secret work and pointed out any mistakes that had been made. I found it, as a rule, to be the custom at the election of officers to select those who were considered to be the best fitted for the position. I noticed with much pleasure when making my visits the good attendance of the P. M's., who, by their presence, aid very materially in keeping up the zeal and energy of the younger members, as well as assisting by their advice and experience in administering the affairs of the lodge.

In some of the lodges I visited the lectures were given in a very fine and impressive manner, and in none more so than in Plantagenet Lodge. There is evidently a growing desire on

the part of the W. M.'s of the different lodges to devote more time to perfecting themselves in the work, and as a consequence the ritualistic work of the lodges is improving.

On May 14th the W. M. the Grand Master, assisted by the officers of Grand Lodge and the W. M.'s of the city lodges, dedicated the new Masonic Hall in Ottawa. After the ceremony was over, the Ottawa brethren entertained the visitors to a banquet in the Russell House. I regretted very much that I was unable to attend on that occasion. The new rooms are very handsome and fitted with every modern convenience which may conduce to the comfort of the craft. The Ottawa brethren are to be congratulated on their energy in preparing such handsome and commodious quarters after having so recently lost their former hall by fire.

The other lodges in the district with but two exceptions have very comfortable lodge rooms.

BY-LAWS.

The M. W. the Grand Master approved of changes to the by-laws of Pembroke Lodge, No. 128; Plantagenet Lodge, No. 186; Fidelity, No. 231; Chaudiere, No. 264.

DISPENSATIONS.

The M. W. the Grand Master issued his dispensation to Bonnechere Lodge, No. 433, to instal their officers on January 15th, and to Prince of Wales, No. 371, to instal their officers on January 28th.

The D. D. G. M. issued dispensations to attend divine service clothed in regalia to these lodges: Madawaska, No. 196; Pembroke, No. 128; Renfrew, No. 122; Bonnechere, No. 433; Plantagenet, No. 196.

DEATHS.

The following deaths have been reported to me during the year: Geo. Harris, 'The Builders'; W. Bro. Pickup and Bro. Rushworth, St John's, Carleton Place; Geo. Wilson and G. A. Anderson, Fidelity; John Munroe, Renfrew; Geo. Sayers, Mattawa, and Thos. Burton, Pembroke.

VISITS.

Mattawa Lodge, No. 405: This was the first lodge in the district which I visited officially. The date of my visit was Sept. 7th. The attendance was small, the secretary not having received notice of my intended visit in time to notify all of the members. Amongst those present were W. B. Bros.

Haentschell and Halliday. There being no work on for the evening the W. Master W. Bro. Dunlop opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees. The work was fairly done. This lodge is in good financial condition, and has done good work in the past. Although I saw no degree work I was informed that the W. M. and his officers were qualified for their respective positions. My reception by the brethren was very hearty, and I found my visit to be a very pleasant one.

Bonnechere Lodge, No. 433, Eganville: I paid an official visit to this lodge September 13th, when I was accompanied by Wor. Bros. Douglas and Russell of Pembroke Lodge. Since its inception Bonnechere Lodge has had to contend with many difficulties. During the past year the W. M. removed from the Village of Pembroke shortly after his election, and as there was only one P. M. in the village, and he did not attend, the lodge has been dependent on Renfrew Lodge to furnish P. M's. to carry on the work. All this I think will now be remedied, as at the December meeting Dr. Sparling was elected W. M., and he is so situated that he can attend, so that no doubt the lodge's future is better. On the night of my visit, there being no W. M. or P. M. of the lodge present, and there being a candidate in waiting, I conferred the E. A. degree. I afterwards instructed the officers in their duties and in the secret work besides giving a short lecture on the aims and principles of Masonry. After the lodge had closed Bro. Beatty entertained the brethren at his residence. On January 10th, 1898, I again visited this lodge, and under dispensation from the W. M. the Grand Master, I installed the newly elected officers. V. Wor. Bro. Stewart and Wor. Bros. Douglas, Leach and Tim, and Bro. Jourdan, all of Pembroke Lodge, accompanied me on my visit. There were present from Renfrew Lodge V. Wor. Bro. W Mackay, and Wor. Bros. Hayes and I Mackay. After the ceremony of installation was over and the lodge closed, the Eganville brethren entertained us at a banquet. When this lodge has become firmly established I think that it will do good work.

St. John's Lodge, No. 63, Carleton Place: This lodge, which is one of the oldest in the district, was visited on October 13th. Amongst those present at the meeting were Wor. Bros. Preston and Williamson. The W. M., Wor. Bro. Morgan, conferred a first and third degree in excellent style and was ably and efficiently assisted by his officers. For a time there had been some trouble in this lodge, and it was not progressing as it should have done. This now is happily adjusted, and under the present W. M. the lodge has taken new life and its future prospects are much brighter. The brethren listened to

my remarks with much attention and gave me a hearty Masonic welcome.

Evergreen Lodge, No. 209, Lanark : Was visited November 2nd. I drove out from Carleton Place and was accompanied by W. Bro. Morgan, the W. M. of St. John's Lodge, Carleton Place. As the night of my visit was very wet and disagreeable there was not a very large attendance of the brethren. There being no work on for the evening I requested the W. M. to open and close the lodge in the three degrees, which was done in very good style. The officers of the lodge, from what I could learn, are well qualified to fill their positions. Financially the lodge is in good circumstances and is prospering fairly well. My reception by the brethren was of a most kindly nature.

Madawaska Lodge, No. 196, Arnprior : On November 8th, I paid an official visit to this lodge, when I was accompanied by W. Bro. James Leach, W. M. of Pembroke Lodge. During the last few years this lodge has made rapid progress, and this has been largely due to the efforts of R. W. Bro. Hood, P. D. D. G. M., who has spared no efforts to promote the interests of Masonry in the district. Amongst those present at the meeting were R. W. Bro. Hood, and W. Bros. Pye and Bunrash. As there was no work for the evening, the W. M. Wor. Bro. Jamieson opened and closed the lodge in the three degrees in a satisfactory manner. The work of the various officers was also very good. After the lodge was closed the brethren tendered us a banquet at Bro. Richmond's hotel where a very enjoyable evening was spent.

Prince of Wales Lodge, No. 371, Ottawa : This lodge was visited on the evening of November 30th, when there was a fair number of members present. Amongst those present were R. W. Bros. Parlow, Rea and Stephens, P. D. D. G. M.'s of this district, and W. Bro. Mulligan. The W. M. conferred the third degree in very pleasing style. The work of all the officers being satisfactory, I exemplified the secret work to the members and was listened to with attention. This lodge is in a fairly prosperous condition and should do even better in the future.

Renfrew Lodge, No. 122, was visited on the night of Dec. 6th : I was accompanied by W. Bro. Leach, W. M. Pembroke Lodge. The brethren of Renfrew accorded us a very hearty reception, as has always been their custom when receiving the D. D. G. M. The night of my visitation happened to be the night of their election of officers. There was a very large attendance of members at the meeting, amongst them being R. W. Bro. Barr, a P. D. D. G. M., and one who has always taken

a deep interest in matters pertaining to the craft. After the election was over, there being no degree work, the W. M. W. Bro. Cleary at my request opened and closed in the three degrees, and from the manner in which it was done I was satisfied that the officers were capable of doing good work, and I was informed that the newly elected officers were also well qualified. This lodge is prosperous to a marked degree. There is a large membership and a comparatively small average of dues. Their lodge room is both convenient and commodious. After the lodge had closed the brethren entertained us at a banquet, where a very pleasant hour was spent.

Mississippi Lodge, No. 147, Almonte : On the night of December 27th I installed the officers of this lodge. Amongst those present were Wor. Bros. Munroe, McEwen and Pollock, P. M's. The lodge had re-elected their Master, W. Bro. Pollock, to another term, and although I saw no degree work, yet, from information received, I was satisfied that the W. M. and his officers were fully competent to carry on the work of the lodge. The brethren entertained me at a banquet and made my visit a very pleasant one.

Dalhousie Lodge, No. 52, Ottawa : This lodge, the oldest in the city of Ottawa, was visited on the evening of June 4th. The meeting was held in the new banquet hall, the new lodge room not being ready for use. There was a very good turnout of the members. The Wor. Master, V. W. Bro. Rodgers, conferred a first degree in very good style, and the other officers aided materially in rendering the work in a proficient manner. All of the officers of this lodge were evidently well posted, and the lodge is prospering. There is a large and active membership, and the lodge is one of the most prosperous in the city. They number amongst their members many leading Masons who have taken an active and prominent part in the affairs of the craft.

Fidelity Lodge, No. 231, Ottawa, was visited on January 18th, when there was a fair attendance of members. The W. M. Wor. Bro. Wilson conferred the third degree. The work was well done. All of the officers of the lodge were present, and the manner in which they performed their duties during the ceremony was very creditable, and evinced careful preparation on their part. This lodge is in a healthy and vigorous condition, and under its present officers is sure to prosper.

Chaudiere Lodge, No. 264, Ottawa, received an official visit on January 25th : The W. M. Wor. Bro. McCuaig conferred the first degree in a manner deserving of commendation. This lodge has been fortunate in always having plenty of work, and as a consequence the officers are in constant practice and so

render the ritual as to make it instructive and impressive. The lodge is in a prosperous condition and is doing good work.

Doric Lodge, No. 58, Ottawa, was visited on Feb. 4th : There was a good attendance of the members, who gave me a hearty welcome. There being no degree work for the evening I requested the W. M. W. Bro. Kidd to open and close the lodge in the three degrees, which was done in a satisfactory manner. I was informed that the W. M. was well posted in the work and that all of the officers were equally efficient. This lodge is in a prosperous condition and is evidently doing good work.

Builders' Lodge, No. 177, Ottawa, received an official visit on March 11th : My train was unfortunately late so that I did not arrive in very good time for the meeting. As this was the first meeting held in the new hall there were present a large number of the members, together with many visitors from the other city lodges. The W. M. conferred the first degree in a manner highly creditable to himself. This lodge is one of the most prosperous in the city, and numbers amongst its members many prominent masons who take a deep interest in everything pertaining to the lodge.

Pembroke Lodge, No. 128 : This lodge, which is one of which I am a member, was visited officially April 7th. As I am a regular attendant of the lodge, I am in a position to judge as to the character of the work. All of the officers are good ritualists, and take a deep interest in everything pertaining to the lodge. During the past year the lodge has prospered, and added a number of new members. On the occasion of my visit an E. A. and M. M. degree were conferred. The character of the work was all that could be desired. The lodge has now as large and active a membership as any in the district, and its future prospects are very bright.

Civil Service Lodge, No. 148, Ottawa : I visited this lodge April 12th. I was accompanied by V. W. Bro. Stewart, W. Bro. Leach and Bro. Reeves, all of Pembroke Lodge. There was a large attendance of members present, Civil Service being noted for the right royal manner in which they always receive the D. D. G. M. The W. M. Wor. Bro. Searoyd conferred the first and third degrees. The work was rendered in a perfect manner, and in the third degree the singing of the lodge choir added very materially to the beauty and impressiveness of the ceremony. Nowhere during my official visits did I see better work than I saw in this lodge, which is evidently prospering, and whose officers take pride in a perfect rendition of the ritual. After closing the lodge the brethren entertained us at a banquet in their handsome dining-room adjoining their hall and where we spent a very pleasant evening.

Plantagenet Lodge, No. 186 : This lodge was visited May 30th. An E. A. and M. M. degree were conferred by W. Bro. Dr. Switzer in a faultless manner. In fact the work of all the officers of this lodge was above criticism. This lodge, though laboring under the disadvantage of being situated in an unfavorable locality where the supply of suitable material for new members is limited, and in having many of its members living at a distance, still possesses as members some very active and enthusiastic Masons, amongst them being W. Bros. Franklin and Smith, both of whom are doing everything in their power to forward the interests of the lodge. The brethren entertained me in a very hospitable manner, and the genial secretary, W. Bro. Chamberlain, assisted materially in making my visit a pleasant one.

St. John's Lodge, No. 217, Vankleek Hill, was reached on May 31st, when there was a fair attendance of members present. Amongst them being R. W. Bro. Johnston, P. D. D. G. M. The second degree was conferred in a fair manner. The officers and many of the members of this lodge live at a distance, and I think deserve credit for the work done during the year, considering the disadvantage of having to drive long distances to attend the meetings. The W. M., W. Bro. Robertson, evidently takes a deep interest in promoting the welfare of the lodge. The brethren entertained me at a banquet after the meeting was over, when a very pleasant hour was spent.

Goodwood Lodge, No. 159, Richmond : This lodge received an official visit on June 1st. I was accompanied from Stillville by Bro. Jas. Butler, a member of the lodge. There was a fair attendance of members at the meeting, and I was received in a very cordial manner by the brethren. The W. M., W. Bro. Craig, conferred the F. C. degree in a very creditable manner. The work of the lodge is performed fairly. This lodge has had many difficulties to contend with. The majority of the members living at a distance, and in many instances having to drive ten miles, and some even longer distances, to attend the meetings. There is also a large average of dues, so that at present the financial condition of the lodge is not very satisfactory. Under the careful guidance of W. Bro. Craig, the W. M., I have no doubt, however, that the future prospects of the lodge are better, and that the work of the lodge will be carried on with greater vigor and energy.

CONCLUSION.

To my brethren of the Ottawa District I desire to return my thanks for the high honor which they conferred upon me to the office of D. D. G. M. I have been received while making my

visits with kindness and respect, and any remarks I made were listened to with attention, and any advice which I offered was kindly received. I have also to express my appreciation of the kindness and assistance which I received from the P. D. D. G. M.'s of the district whom I met during my visitations. My brethren my work is done imperfectly and falling far short of my ideal, but yet to the best of my ability, and any omissions on my part I know that you will cover with the broad mantle of masonic charity.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

GEO. E. JOSEPHS, D. D. G. M.

Ottawa District, No. 16.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in The Ottawa District, No. 16, from June 24th, 1897, to June 24th, 1898.

| Number of Lodge. | NAME OF LODGE. | LOCATION. | Mem- bership | | Degrees conferred | | Total No. of all Mem. | Increase during year | Decrease during year | E. A. | F. C. | M. M. | Affiliations. | Restorations. | Resignations. | S. N. P. D. | Suspensions, other causes. | Deceased. | Regular. | Irregular. | Meet- ings held. | | Average attendance of members. | Amount paid for relief. | No. of members in arrears. | Total of all Arrears. | Date of last G. L. Return. | Financial Standing. | Prospects of Lodge. | Can. W. M. work all degrees. | Insurance. | | |
|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|-------|-----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|----------------------------|-----------|----------|------------|------------------|----------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|------------|------------|---------|
| | | | Increase during year | Decrease during year | E. A. | F. C. | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | M. M. | Regular. | | | | | | | | | | Irregular. | Total. | Percent. | No. of members 12 months in arrears. | % |
| 186 | Phantogen's | Phantogen's | 26 | 5 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 12 | 12 | 10 | 6 | 22 | 0 | Dec. '97 | Fair. | Only fair. | Yes | 100 00 | |
| 231 | Fidelity | Ottawa | 81 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 11 | 25 | 18 | 25 | 193 | 27 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Excellent | Yes | 580 00 | |
| 159 | Goodwood | Richmond | 62 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 12 | 12 | 12 | 50 | 316 | 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Not Good. | Yes | 50 00 | |
| 214 | St. John's | Vankleek H. H. | 37 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 9 | 18 | 14 | 15 | 75 | June, '97 | Fair. | Fair. | Yes | 400 00 | | |
| 58 | Doric | Ottawa | 101 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 12 | 25 | 36 | 320 | 00 | June, '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 400 00 | | |
| 169 | Mac'waska | Amurior | 75 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 12 | 18 | 21 | 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 1200 00 | | | |
| 63 | St. John's | Carleton Place | 95 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 15 | 25 | 10 | 31 | 150 | 00 | Dec. '97 | Fair. | Good. | Yes | 100 00 | |
| 147 | Mississippi | Almonte | 69 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 11 | 30 | 15 | 25 | 312 | 87 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 800 00 | |
| 177 | The Builder's | Ottawa | 115 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 13 | 12 | 4 | 55 | 12 | 12 | 00 | Dec. '97 | Not bad. | Fair. | Yes | 800 00 |
| 433 | Bonnet's | Eganville | 36 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 2 | 13 | 12 | 17 | 112 | 90 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 1200 00 | |
| 122 | Renfrew | Renfrew | 100 | 4 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 14 | 4 | 18 | 11 | 00 | 380 | 90 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 100 00 | |
| 128 | Pembroke | Pembroke | 126 | 13 | 3 | 12 | 11 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 11 | 34 | 22 | 37 | 50 | 390 | 00 | June, '98 | Very good | Good. | Yes | 1200 00 |
| 52 | Dalhousie | Ottawa | 114 | 4 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 10 | 11 | 10 | 35 | 00 | 151 | 75 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | No | 800 00 | |
| 405 | Mad'awa | Mad'awa | 80 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 13 | 20 | 45 | 00 | 131 | 75 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Go d. | Yes | 800 00 | |
| 371 | Pr. of Wales | Ottawa | 70 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 10 | 8 | 20 | 00 | 179 | 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Very good | Yes | 800 00 | |
| 200 | Kyvergreen | Lanark | 39 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 10 | 28 | 70 | 00 | 179 | 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 800 00 | |
| 148 | Civil Serv'g | Ottawa | 76 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 5 | 2 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 11 | 20 | 91 | 80 | 253 | 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 800 00 | |
| 261 | Chaudier | Ottawa | 101 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 13 | 20 | 91 | 80 | 253 | 00 | Dec. '97 | Good. | Good. | Yes | 800 00 | |

ALGOMA DISTRICT, No. 17.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor of submitting to you a short report as to the condition of Masonry in Algoma District, No. 17.

I have much pleasure in stating that even though it was not as early in the year as I had wished, I have been able to visit all the lodges in the district, and after having done so, I can fully appreciate the remarks of my worthy predecessor in this office when he says that the lodges, though few in number, cover a wide extent of territory, and, I am glad to say, most important territory, both from a Masonic and Provincial point of view.

As was a most natural thing to do, my first official visit was to my mother lodge, Keystone, No. 412, Sault Ste. Marie, on St. John's night, when I assisted in installing the officers for this year. There was a large attendance of members, and a very pleasant and profitable time was spent, a pleasant feature of the evening's enjoyment being the presentation by the members of the lodge of a P. D. D. G. M.'s regalia to R. W. Bro. W. H. Hearst. The brethren of Keystone have shown their appreciation of the labors of a faithful and a zealous Master by electing W. Bro. McFadden to the East for a second term. He has associated with him as Wardens and junior officers brethren well skilled and enthusiastic, which bids fair for the success for the future of this lodge.

I regret to say the finances of this lodge are not as healthy as I would wish, but I believe they will soon be more flourishing, as the admirable work of our secretary is making an appreciable reduction in the arrears of dues.

I visited Shuniah Lodge, No. 287, Port Arthur, on the evening of the 18th of June, and was much pleased at seeing so many members of this lodge present, as, it being Saturday evening, and many of the brethren being engaged in business, I did not expect a very large turnout. The large attendance under these circumstances therefore spoke volumes, both for the popularity of their W. M., W. Bro. Morgan, as well as for

their interest in the craft. W. Bro. Morgan exemplified the third degree, and, as might be expected from one bearing this historic name, Masonically speaking, it was well and impressively given. I found the officers of this lodge very earnest and anxious for its success, and I am sure a good future is in store for it. Although the arrearages for dues are very large, its financial condition is splendid, the lodge having a very substantial asset in the shape of a commodious hall and opera house worth several thousand dollars. The lodge has a very efficient secretary in Bro. Ritchie, whose books are well and neatly kept.

The evening was closed by a most enjoyable banquet in their spacious dining-room.

Pequonga Lodge, No. 414, Rat Portage, was visited by me on the 24th of June: On arriving at Rat Portage, the metropolis of Ontario's gold fields, I was met at the station by W. Bro. McCrossan, the W. M. of the lodge, who with R. W. Bro. Ferguson and the other members of the lodge, made my stay in their pretty town very pleasant indeed. Upon assembling in the lodge room in the evening I was pleased to find a large number of brethren. The third degree was conferred upon a candidate by W. Bro. McCrossan in a most creditable manner. I noticed with approval that he asked the P. M.'s present to assist him in performing the work, which I think, does much to keep fresh in the minds of the P. M.'s the work, and tends to make them retain a greater interest in the welfare of the lodge. The duties of the secretary, as well as those of the other officers, are well performed, but I regret to see the large amount of arrearages of dues in this lodge, it being in this regard a long way ahead of the rest in this district. I have great reason to hope however, before another year, they will be materially reduced. I noticed with pleasure the arrangement of the lights in the lodge room here. It is the best I have seen in any lodge room, not excepting the beautiful temple in the City or Toronto. The evening was closed by a pleasant social hour or two.

Keewatin Lodge, No. 417, was next visited by me on the evening of the 21st day of June, when I was accompanied by several of the brethren from Pequonga Lodge in the trim little yacht belonging to W. Bro. McCrossan. We all enjoyed the beautiful sail, and found a good turnout of the brethren to meet us. This lodge has in W. Bro. Robinson a well skilled Mason and careful Master. A good feeling exists in the lodge. Owing to the lack of material, this lodge has not grown much during the last year. I regret to say that those new industries predicted by my predecessor have not yet materialized, but I

am sure, if patience, diligence and perseverance can bring them about, they will not be long absent. I regret to see in this lodge, also, large arrearages in dues. After the W. M. had exemplified the work, we spent an hour or two in pleasant sociable entertainment in the supper room.

I next visited Fort William Lodge, No. 415, on the evening of the 23rd of June, where I was glad to meet again W. Bro. Perry as W. M., whom I had met when visiting Shuniah Lodge. I was glad to meet here several of our Port Arthur brethren. W. Bro. Perry is W. M. of the lodge this year again, and showed by the skillful manner in which he conferred the third degree that he has appreciated the honor sufficiently well to keep well up in his work. There appears to be an abundance of good material here, and the lodge is in good condition, but I also see here that the amount of dues in arrear is too large. After finishing the business of the evening, we adjourned to one of the comfortable hotels of the town, where most elaborate preparations had been made for our entertainment. An hour or two were spent most enjoyably, all going home fully convinced that the future of Masonry in Fort William must be bright.

I closed my official visit at Dyment Lodge, U. D., at Thesalon, on the evening of June 30th, where I found W. M. W. L. Nichols well skilled indeed. He conferred the third degree in a most satisfactory manner, and the way in which the whole business of the lodge was conducted showed me that much care and great pains have been taken by the officers of this lodge, and I am sure Grand Lodge will reward their diligence and work by granting them a charter at its present convocation.

I have received applications for dispensations for new lodges at Rat Portage and at Fort Frances, and after enquiring into the matter carefully I have concluded it will be in the best interest of the craft to grant them, and I have therefore recommended Grand Lodge to do so. During the present year I have issued dispensations to Fort William and Keystone Lodges to attend divine service.

I am sure we can safely say that masonry is flourishing in this district, and as harmony and the best of good fellowship prevail in all the lodges, I am led with confidence to cherish the hope that during the coming year much progress will be made.

In conclusion, I thank the brethren of the district for electing me to the high and honorable position of D. D. G. M., and for their unvarying kindness during my term of office.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

C. F. FARWELL, D. D. G. M.,
Algoma District, No. 17.

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

GRAND LODGE OF A. F. & A. M. OF CANADA IN THE PROVINCE OF ONTARIO.

Table Showing the work done in Algoma District, No. 17, from June 24th, 1897, to June 24th, 1898.

| Number of Lodge. | NAME OF Lodge. | LOCATION. | Membership. | | Degrees conferred. | | | Total No. of all Mem. | Total No. of all Mem. Increase during year. | F. A. | F. C. | M. M. | Meetings held. | | | Average attendance of members. | Amount paid for relief. | No of members 12 months in arrears. | Total of all arrearages. | Date of last G. L. Return. | Financial Standing. | Prospects of Lodge. | Can W. M. work all degrees. | Insurance. |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-------------|----------|--------------------|--------|----------|-----------------------|---|-------|-------|-------|----------------|-----|----|--------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| | | | Total. | Regular. | Emergent. | Total. | Regular. | | | | | | Emergent. | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 287 | Stannah..... | Port Arthur..... | 93 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 518 | 14 | 105 85 | 34 | \$ 394 80 | Dec. 97..... | Good. | Good. | Yes | \$1800 00 | |
| 412 | Keystone..... | Sault Ste Marie..... | 79 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 11 | 124 | 15 | 96 00 | 30 | 150 00 | Dec. 97..... | Fair. | Good. | Yes | 500 00 | |
| 414 | Pequong..... | Port Portage..... | 89 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 922 | 15 | 40 00 | 40 | 520 00 | June, 97 ... | Good. | Good. | Yes | 400 00 | |
| 415 | F. W. Liam..... | Port W. Liam..... | 58 | 9 | 2 | 6 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 316 | 25 | 100 00 | 12 | 105 75 | Dec. 97 ... | Fair. | Good. | Yes | 400 00 | |
| 417 | Keewatin..... | Keewatin..... | 47 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12 | 113 | 11 | 11 00 | 13 | ... | Dec. 97 ... | Fair. | Fair. | Yes | ... | |
| U D | Dyment..... | Thessalon..... | 31 | 10 | 2 | 10 | 11 | 14 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11 | 620 | 17 | ... | 1 | 56 00 | Dec., 97 ... | Good. | Good. | Yes | 200 00 | |

NIPISSING DISTRICT, No. 18.

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master, Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada, in the Province of Ontario :

MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND BRETHREN :

I have the honor to submit the following brief report on the condition of masonry in the eighteenth Masonic District.

I am very pleased to state that the greatest harmony prevails throughout this jurisdiction, no complaints or grievances having come to my notice during the year.

Although the increase in membership has not been as great as might have been expected, nevertheless I think that masonry in the district may be said to be in a fairly healthy and prosperous condition.

I have seen the work exemplified in a majority of lodges, and I am proud to say that the officers did their work in a highly creditable manner, and proved themselves close ritualists.

I granted dispensations to the following lodges to attend divine service clothed as masons : Algonquin, No. 434, on August 29th, 1897 ; Unity, No. 377, on June 19th, 1898 ; Algonquin, No. 434, on June 19th, 1898 ; Nipissing, No. 420, on June 26th, 1898 ; Strong, No. 423, on July 10th, 1898 ; Golden Rule. No. 409, on July 10th, 1898.

As you are aware, there are only nine lodges within this jurisdiction ; nevertheless the regular meetings of some of the lodges are held upon the same evening. This should not be. Were the nights of meeting of some of the lodges changed, with a view of having them held upon consecutive evenings, it would very much facilitate the D. D. G. M. in making his official visits, and enable him to visit them upon the occasion of their regular meetings, which is always the most satisfactory, and materially lessen the distance to be travelled, which, under existing circumstances, is very great in proportion to the number of lodges within the jurisdiction.

In conclusion, I desire to thank the brethren throughout the district for the very kindly and hospitable manner in which I have everywhere been received, and to express the hope that the harmony and fraternal feeling which at present prevails may ever continue.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

W. H. HOWEY, D. D. G. M.,
Nipissing District, No. 18

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON WARRANTS.

R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, President of the Board of General Purposes, presented and read the following

REPORT :

The Board, through the committee on warrants, beg to make the following recommendations :

1. That Warrants be issued to

Dyment Lodge, No. 442, Thessalon, Algoma District, No. 17 ; Powassan Lodge, No. 443, Powassan, Nipissing District, No. 18 ; and Nitetis Lodge, No. 444, Creemore, Georgian District, No. 9.

Dispensations were granted the above lodges at the last Annual Communication of Grand Lodge.

An examination of the minute books, which have been regularly submitted, proves them to have been making satisfactory progress, and the D. D. G. M.'s of the districts in which they are situated, certify that they have well furnished lodge rooms and the necessary regalia.

2. That Dispensations be granted to

Lake of the Woods Lodge, Rat Portage, Algoma District, No. 17, and Granite Lodge, Fort Frances, Algoma District, No. 17.

3. That the following Petitions for Lodges be not entertained :

Zenophon Lodge, Wheatly, County of Kent, Erie District, No. 1 ; Victoria Lodge, North Williamsburg, St. Lawrence District, No. 15 ; and Jubilee Lodge, Sturgeon Falls, Nipissing District, No. 18.

Fraternally submitted,

L. SECORD,

Chairman of Sub-Committee on Warrants.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, seconded by R. W. Bro. L. Secord, and

Resolve 1,—That the report of the Board on Warrants be received and adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF PRINTING AND SUPPLIES.

R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT :

The Board, through the Committee on Printing and Supplies, beg leave to report :

1st. That they have examined the following duly certified accounts and recommend the same to the Audit and Finance Committee per payment :

| | |
|--|----------|
| Copp, Clark & Co. (certificates, etc.), on account . . . | \$200 00 |
| Times Printing Co. (Hamilton), acc. of 1893 (over- | |
| looked) | 81 50 |
| J. Eastwood & Co. (Hamilton), Stationery | 59 80 |
| Spectator Printing Co. (Hamilton), Proceedings, etc., | |
| (on account) | 400 00 |
| | <hr/> |
| | \$741 30 |

2nd. In conformity with instructions from Grand Lodge, the Grand Secretary advertised for tenders for Grand Lodge printing for five years from the 1st of November next, and received six tenders in all for the work, one of which was not placed in the Grand Secretary's hands until three days after the allotted time. This tender the committee refused to entertain. The figures of each of the remaining five tenders were carefully scrutinized and compared, and the task was one of more than the ordinary difficulty, owing to the close figuring of several of the firms. The sub-committee, after estimating the quantities required by the Grand Secretary, and figuring on each tender accordingly, unanimously recommend that, in their opinion the interest of Grand Lodge would be best subserved by the acceptance of the tender of the Spectator Printing Company, of Hamilton, for the entire work, theirs being the lowest. They also recommend that the necessary agreement be executed by the Grand Secretary with the Spectator Printing Company in accordance therewith.

3rd. The following are the figures of the successful tenderer in each of the ten forms of the specifications upon which the tender was awarded :

| | | | | |
|-------------|--|---------|-----------|-----|
| Form No. 1. | Proceedings of Grand Lodge . . . | 76c. | per page. | |
| " " | 2. Constitutions " " " " | \$ 1 18 | " " | |
| " " | 3. Lodge returns | 13 50 | per | 500 |
| " " | 4. Return of officers | 2 75 | " " | |
| " " | 5. " " red-lined | 4 00 | " " | |
| " " | 6. Applications for benevolence (relatives) | 3 50 | " " | |
| " " | 7. Applications for benevolence (brethren) | 3 00 | per | 200 |
| " " | 8. Returns of Local Boards of Relief | 3 00 | " " | 100 |
| " " | 9. Benevolence Returns of Lodges | 4 00 | " " | 400 |
| " " | 10. Receipt Books, each | 6 00 | " " | |

4th. The Board further recommend that during the interim of Grand Lodge the Grand Secretary call for tenders for the lithographic work required by Grand Lodge, and that the chairman of the Committee on Printing and Supplies, R. W. Bro. Hungerford, and the Grand Secretary be empowered to award the contract for the same to the lowest bidder, everything else being equal.

5th. The Board desire to call the attention of the brethren to the fact that a large number of copies of the various "Ceremonies" are in the hands of the Grand Secretary, who will supply them on request at the low price of 25 cents for ten copies of each "Ceremony." These "Ceremonies" comprise organizing, dedication of lodge, installation, corner-stone laying and funeral, and were prepared in a simple form to enable all taking part therein to become thoroughly acquainted with the procedure, and the Board trust that the brethren will avail themselves of the opportunity presented to secure them at cost.

6th. The Board will endeavor to place the different reports of Grand Lodge (those deemed prudent to print at this time) in the hands of the brethren as soon as possible after their submission to Grand Lodge.

Fraternally submitted,

J. S. DEWAR,

Chairman of Sub-Committee on Printing and Supplies.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. S. Dewar, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Board on Printing and Supplies be received and (subsequently) adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON AUDIT AND FINANCE

R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT :

The Board, through the Committee on Finance and Audit, have audited the books of the Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer, and certify to their correctness.

All moneys received by the Grand Secretary have been paid over to the Grand Treasurer, and their receipt acknowledged by that officer. Vouchers have been produced for all payments made by the Grand Treasurer as authorized by Grand Lodge.

The report of the Grand Secretary gives a full statement of receipts from all sources as well as other business transacted in the office.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| The total receipts have been..... | \$ 19,798 82 |
| The total expenditures have been..... | 18,338 29 |
| | Receipts over expenditures..... |
| | \$ 1,460 53 |

The receipts last year were \$20,828,82, making a deficiency for this year of \$1,030.

The expenditures last year were \$17,613 08, leaving a balance against this year of \$725.21, which is explained by the payment of the special grant to the Hospital for Sick Children of \$2,000.

The funds of Grand Lodge on May 31st, 1898, were as follows :

| | |
|---|--------------|
| British Canadian Loan and Investment Co., Toronto, | |
| at $4\frac{1}{4}\%$ | \$ 15,000 00 |
| Huron and Erie Loan and Savings Co., London, at $4\frac{1}{4}\%$.. | 15,000 00 |
| Western Canada Loan and Savings Co., Toronto, at 4% .. | 10,000 00 |
| Canada Permanent Loan and Savings Co., Toronto, at 4% | 10,000 00 |
| Landed Banking and Loan Co., Hamilton, at $4\frac{1}{4}\%$ | 10,000 00 |
| “ “ “ “ “ “ 4% | 5,000 00 |
| Ontario Loan and Debenture Co., London, at $4\frac{1}{4}\%$ | 5,000 00 |
| Canadian Loan and Savings Co., London, at $4\frac{1}{4}\%$ | 5,000 00 |
| | \$75,000 00 |

The Investment in the Owen Sound, Grey and Bruce Co., \$5,000 matured, was paid and is in the Canadian Bank of Commerce on deposit.

Total Investments.....\$75,000 00

CURRENT ACCOUNT :

Balance in Canadian Bank of Commerce, 3%..... 20,583 70

Grand total\$95,583 70

Making the Investments as follows

| | |
|----------------|-------------|
| Toronto | \$35,000 00 |
| Hamilton | 15,000 00 |
| London | 25,000 00 |
| | \$75,000 00 |

Which amount represents the balance at the credit of the following accounts :

| | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| General Fund | \$80,355 95 |
| Asylum Fund | 15,227 75 |
| | \$95,583 70 |

The Board have examined the following accounts, and finding them correct recommend their payment :

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Committee on Foreign Correspondence | \$ 100 00 |
| Grand Secretary, balance of Incidentals, May 31st, '98... | 58 75 |
| Grand Secretary, advance for Incidentals | 500 00 |
| Grants to Benevolence | 10,000 00 |
| General Masonic Relief Association, annual fee..... | 113 00 |
| Premium on Grand Secretary's Bond..... | 50 00 |
| | \$10,821 75 |

The Committee on Printing and Supplies having reported that the following accounts are correct, the Board recommend their payment:

| | |
|--|----------|
| Copp, Clark Co., certificates, etc. (on account)..... | \$200 00 |
| Times Printing Co., account 1893 | 81 50 |
| J. Eastwood & Co., stationery..... | 59 80 |
| Spectator Printing Co., Proceedings, etc. (on account) | 400 00 |
| | \$741 03 |

An application has been received from Dufferin Lodge, No. 364, Melbourn, asking the Grand Lodge to remit \$50 of an indebtedness of \$91 due this Grand Lodge, and setting forth the fact that their hall has a mortgage of \$200. The Board have carefully considered this matter, and from the fact submitted, viz.:—their having only the interest to pay upon this mortgage, and with a membership of 33, we cannot recommend that any compromise be entertained. There are several lodges in the jurisdiction who have been struggling with arrears, and have through their efforts placed themselves in first class standing, and we doubt not that with an effort Dufferin Lodge can do the same.

A memorial has been presented from Royal Solomon Lodge, No. 293, Jerusalem, asking this Grand Lodge for permission to enable them to make an appeal to the world for assistance to build a Masonic Temple at Jerusalem. The Board are of an opinion that however laudable the undertaking may be, yet it is not advisable that this Grand Lodge should grant any such permission.

The Board recommend that the sum of ten thousand dollars be invested by the Standing Committee upon investments.

Fraternally submitted,

T. SARGANT,

Chairman Sub-Committee on Audit and Finance.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, seconded by R. W. Bro. T. Sargent,

That the report of the Board on Audit and Finance be received and adopted.

It was moved in amendment by W. Bro. Walter Barwick, seconded by M. W. Bro. W. R. White,

Resolved,—That the report of the Board on Audit and Finance be amended by adding at the conclusion the words “in County, City or Town municipal debentures.”

The amendment was put to Grand Lodge and declared *carried*.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON BENEVOLENCE.

R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT :

The Board, through the Committee on Benevolence, beg to report that they have received 298 applications, which have been dealt with as follows :

| | |
|--|-------------|
| 156 applications from private lodges, of which 143 have been granted, amounting to | \$ 5,585 00 |
| and 13 have been rejected. | |
| 142 applications through Local Boards of Relief, of which 121 have been granted, amounting to..... | 3,890 00 |

SPECIAL GRANTS BY GRAND LODGE :

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Mrs. Wilson..... | 150 00 |
| Miss Mary Wilson..... | 300 00 |
| Miss M. H. Harris..... | 75 00 |
| <hr/> | |
| Total grants 1898..... | \$10,000 00 |
| Amounts of grants 1897..... | 10,775 00 |
| <hr/> | |
| Decrease in 1898..... | \$775 00 |

Fifteen men and nine women received the maximum grant.

Returns have been made by all the Local Boards except one—Brantford.

Returns have been made by all the lodges except Lodges Nos. 18, 48, 57, 84, 87, 91, 99, 107, 119, 136, 142, 171, 174, 221, 255, 276, 277, 299, 306, 309, 320, 354, 357, 386, 421—28 lodges.

The Board regret the large number of lodges neglecting to make returns.

The Board recommend that no cheque be forwarded to the above lodges by the Grand Secretary until returns from said lodges have been received by him.

The sum of \$475 have been granted for temporary relief since our last annual communication.

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Fifty-three lodges receiving grants from Grand Lodge and making returns have contributed..... | \$ 2,313 07 |
| and six making returns contributed nothing. | |
| Local Boards of Relief contributed..... | 3,893 89 |

| | |
|---|-------------|
| During the year 1897 the sum of..... | 16,983 07 |
| was expended in benevolence, made up as follows : | |
| Grand Lodge grants through all sources..... | 10,775 00 |
| Grants by fifty-three lodges | 2,313 07 |
| Grants of Local Boards | 3,895 00 |
| | \$16,983 07 |

The Board received an application from Zurich Lodge, No. 224, Hensall, for a grant to reimburse them the amount expended by the lodge in burying one of the members of such lodge. This application cannot be entertained, as such a grant is in no sense a benevolent grant, and would open the doors to scores of such applications by other lodges who may be put to expense for a like purpose. The Board have received an application from the widow of P. G. M. Harrington, who, owing to age and infirmity is now in very great distress. The Board have made the Maximum Grant of \$80, and leaves the matter of a larger grant in the hands of the brethren of Grand Lodge.

The Board recommend :

1. That no payments be made on accounts of the grants made to new applicants, or those applications in which investigation is directed by the Committee until after investigation by the Inspector.

2. That the Inspector be paid for his attendance on the Committee on Benevolence, \$15.

3. The Board note with pleasure the approval with which the General Masonic Board of Relief of the United States and Canada is regarded in this jurisdiction, as a channel for doing good and as a protection from imposition by unworthy brethren. It is only appreciated as it deserves. The steady progress manifested by the organization is tangible evidence of its value, and the Board hopes that those lodges which are yet strangers to its benefits will seek to know more of it, and will come in under its protecting wing.

(SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT.)

To the President of the Board of General Purposes :

R. W. SIR AND BROTHER,—Grand Lodge, at the last annual Communication, having authorized the chairman of the Sub-Committee on Benevolence to make grants for purposes of temporary relief in cases of pressing need arising between the communications of the Grand Lodge. Such grants to be made with the approval of the M. W. and the G. M., and the President of the Board of General Purposes. I have the honor to report the particulars in all the cases where relief has been granted since our last annual communication.

1. On the 13th day of August, 1897, an application was made by Hanover Lodge, No. 432, on behalf of Bro. Charles Scarborough, a member of that lodge, who was suffering from bodily infirmities and in distressed circumstances. A grant of fifty dollars (\$50.00) was made by me, one-half payable at once, and the other half subject to the report of Right W. Bro. Dickson. Afterwards I reduced this grant to forty dollars (40.00) as soon as I became aware of the limit placed upon those grants.

2. On the 15th day of October, 1897, an application was made by Minden Lodge, No. 253, on behalf of the widow of Bro. William Perry, a M. M. of that lodge who died on the 21st day of December,

1881, leaving a widow and one son, who left home and of whom nothing is now known, and one daughter married and had one child—an infant—the mother living with her son-in-law. On Friday, the 1st day of October, 1897, the house in which they resided was burnt with its contents, Mrs. Perry escaping with her life, the daughter badly burned, the son-in-law so badly burned that it was feared he would be in the hospital for months, and the infant was burned to death. Minden Lodge granted \$25.00, some brethren \$5.00, and I granted an order for \$40.00.

3. On the 29th day of October, 1897, an application was made by Faithful Brethren Lodge, No. 77, G. R. C., Lindsay, on behalf of the widow of Thomas Richardson, a M. M. of that lodge, who died in August, 1897. The widow is over eighty years of age and had but twenty dollars (\$20.00) a year to live on, and the lodge represented that they would make a grant at their next meeting, but owing to the fact that they had granted relief to a Brother not a member of their lodge, their benevolent fund was small and that they could not do much. I made a grant of forty dollars (\$40.00) in this case also.

4. On the 1st of November, 1897, St. John's Lodge, No. 40, made an application through the Local B. of R., Hamilton, on behalf of the widow of William McCargow, a M. M., of that Lodge, who died on the 15th April, 1897, in very poor circumstances. The Local Board contributed \$15.00 and one of the brothers \$10.00 for the support of the widow, and I made a grant of thirty dollars (\$30.00.)

5. On the 12th day of November, 1897, an application was made by The Builders Lodge, No. 177, Ottawa, through the Local Board of Relief of the city on behalf of the widow and five children of Arthur Winfield Bice, a M. M., and a member of Chesterville Lodge, No. 320 who died on the 14th day of July, 1890. The dwelling-house and all the furniture, clothing, etc., of this widow and her family were burned up and destroyed in the great fire at Casselman last fall; the family barely escaping with their lives. The craft at Ottawa exemplified the beauties of Masonic Charities having contributed \$65.00 and Chesterville brethren \$20.00. I made a grant of forty dollars (\$40.00.)

6. On the 15th day of November, 1897, an application was made by Harris Lodge, No. 216, on behalf of Bro. John Scott, a Past Master of that lodge. This brother has been blind for many years and is also mentally weak, so that his poor wife cannot leave him. Owing to a change in the officers of the lodge last year an application was not made at last Grand Lodge. Harris Lodge made a grant of \$25 and I made a grant of \$40.

7. On the 10th day of November, A. D. 1897, Conestogo Lodge, No. 295, Drayton, made an application on behalf of Bro. Thos. R. Wood, of that lodge, 62 years of age, who was in a position of great distress. The lodge is unable to relieve the brother, but individual brethren contributed coal and provisions to prevent the brother from starvation. I made a grant of forty dollars (\$40).

8. On the 16th day of November, 1887, St. John's Lodge, No. 63, made an application on behalf of W. Bro. David McNab, P. M. of that lodge, 76 years of age, who was in a position of great distress. The brethren of St. John's promised to grant \$25 at Christmas, and some of the individual brethren had assisted him to a slight extent. I granted \$40. Before making the grants to Bros. Scott, Wood and McNab, I enquired of R. W. Nixon, who informed me that those brethren were in a state of absolute want.

9. On the 21st day of December, 1897, Tuscan Lodge, No. 99, Newmarket, made an application on behalf of the widow of Bro. Flood,

a P. M. of that lodge, who died on the 13th of January, 1885, leaving his widow in very poor circumstances; five children, two of them are in the Asylum at Orilla. The lodge granted \$5. I granted \$40, as that was the amount formerly granted by the Board.

10. On the 1st day of January, 1898, an application was made by Corinthian Lodge, No. 330, on behalf of the widow of Bro. Thomas Blackburn, who was a M. M. of that lodge, who died from paralysis on the 25th of August, 1892, in poor circumstances, leaving his widow with two boys, aged respectively 11 and 13 years. The widow received \$5, 17th December, 1897, and \$10 on the 30th December, 1897. I granted \$20 in this case.

11. On the 1st day of January, 1898, an application was made by Teeswater lodge, No. 276, on behalf of the wife of Bro. Hobert Hassard, who is now an inmate of the Asylum, his wife being in poor health, with four children—two boys, aged 13 and 5, and two girls, aged 11 and 9 respectively. I made a grant of \$40 in this case.

12. On the 18th January, 1898, an application was made by St. Francis Lodge, No. 24, Smith's Falls, on behalf of Bro. William Crozier, a M. M., of that lodge, who was suffering from illness and unable to support his wife and child (three years of age). The brethren of St. Francis Lodge, No. 24, had contributed \$50 in money besides other assistance to the family. I granted \$40 in this case.

13. On the 28th day of February, A. D. 1898, an application was made by Ionic Lodge, No. 25, on behalf of W. Bro. Charles W. Brown a Past Master, who was then in the Home for Incurables suffering from paralysis. Ionic No. 25, had contributed \$10, and St. Paul's Chapter \$10. I granted \$25.

14. On the 27th day of December, 1897, I granted \$20 to Brother Philip Henry, of Montreal, payable through M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, under the circumstances detailed in the correspondence.

The Board have had their attention directed to the fact that printed appeals are sometimes issued by private lodges on behalf of brethren in distress who apply to them for assistance. If there were no benevolent fund and no organized system of distributing it and the other funds available for benevolent purposes, such appeals might not be objectionable. In view of the existing state of facts the Board is of opinion that they should be strongly discountenanced. Grand Lodge has adopted the system of dealing with the benevolent funds subject to their control in such a manner as leave their just distribution amongst those whom it is desirable to benefit, and with this view they have adopted a scale of grants and have appointed an officer to examine into the merits of the several applications made. It is manifest that appeals such as those put forth are entirely inconsistent with the object which Grand Lodge has aimed at.

Fraternally submitted

JOHN E. HARDING,

Chairman Sub-Committee on Benevolence.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, seconded by R. W. Bro. Harding,

That the report of the Board of Benevolence be received and adopted.

It was moved in amendment by M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, seconded by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray,

That the report of Board be amended so as to increase the amount of the grant to the widow of the late M. W. Bro. T. D. Harington from \$80 to \$150, and that the report so amended be adopted.

The amendment was put to Grand Lodge and *carried*.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON GRIEVANCE AND APPEALS.

R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT :

The Board beg to report as follows upon the cases of grievances and appeals before them :

(1) St. John's Lodge, No. 82, vs. Bro. John Clegg. This was a case before your Board at its last session, see page 268 G. L. Proceedings, 1897, when Grand Lodge adopted the Board's recommendation to leave the matter over till this meeting of Grand Lodge to allow Bro. Clegg to produce a copy of the evidence taken against him. Bro. Clegg has produced no further evidence, but in order to do every justice to the brother, and in view of the request for leniency from five members of his own lodge, we recommend that the matter lay over till next meeting of Grand Lodge; that in the meantime the Grand Secretary notify Bro. Clegg that the case will be definitely dealt with at next meeting in case he make further default. Your Board would make the suggestion which might be conveyed to St. John's Lodge: If these five brethren mentioned voice the sentiment of St. John's Lodge they might themselves remove Bro. Clegg's suspension, thereby taking the matter out of Grand Lodge.

(2) Unity Lodge, No. 376, Huntsville, vs. Bro. F. G. Pokorney. Larceny and conviction therefor by court of competent jurisdiction. This matter reported at page 269 G. L. Proceedings, 1897, was laid over for further evidence of trial of the brother by his lodge. Your Board have now such evidence. He was tried, found guilty, suspended and recommended to Grand Lodge for expulsion. Your Board recommend that Bro. Pokorney be summoned before next meeting of Grand Lodge to show cause why he should not be expelled from the Craft for said offence.

(3) Star in the East Lodge, No. 164, *re* Bro. Wm. Patterson.

This is a petition passed by a unanimous vote of the above lodge asking Grand Lodge to remove the expulsion of Bro. Patterson and restore him to good standing.

Bro. Patterson was tried by his lodge on the 30th September, 1897, for deserting his wife and family and openly co-habiting with another woman. He was found guilty, suspended, and recommended for expulsion. Grand Lodge expelled him in July, 1881. Your Board understand that Bro. Patterson has not been living for years within the jurisdiction of Star in the East Lodge; the members thereof are therefor not in a position to say for a certainty whether the brother is properly entitled to restoration, or at least have not shown to Grand Lodge that such is the case. Your Board therefore consider it advisable and recommend that the matter be referred to the D. D. G. M. of the Georgian District (within whose jurisdiction Bro. Patterson is) to investigate and report to the next meeting of Grand Lodge.

(4) Lodge 332, Stratford, vs. W. Bro. Yeman, Felony, for which the Bro. was convicted at the Stratford Assizes in November, 1897, and sentenced to three years' term in the Penitentiary. He was tried by his lodge, suspended, and recommended to Grand Lodge for expulsion. Your Board recommend that Bro. Yeman be summoned before next Grand Lodge to show cause why he should not be expelled from the craft for the offence proved.

(5) Scotland Lodge, No. 193, Scotland, vs. J. Zimmerman. Obtaining money under false pretences, forgery, etc.

The brother was tried by his lodge, suspended and recommended to Grand Lodge for expulsion. The Board recommend that Bro. Zimmerman be summoned to appear before next Grand Lodge meeting to show cause why he should not be expelled from the Craft for the offences proved.

(6) Kent Lodge, No. 274, vs. Bro. M. F. Pumaville. Alleged offence, teaching a public school without a lawful certificate.

It appears from the papers before us that Bro. Pumaville had a 2nd class non-professional certificate; had tried the Normal at Ottawa, passed the practical, but failed on the theoretical examination, had subsequently tried the latter examination at the Toronto Normal and had again failed. It was alleged for the prosecution that in consequence he had no right to teach, and had represented to one of the trustees that he had a 2nd class professional certificate. This Bro. Pumaville denied. Amongst the papers put in by the prosecution is a letter from one Brebner, a Public School Inspector, that a teacher with a non-professional certificate can teach until the Educational Department refuse to allow him to write again, and this statement is corroborated by the Minister of Education's letter which is on file. The Education Department has not yet refused Bro. Pumaville a further trial. The brother was tried by his lodge, suspended indefinitely and recommended to Grand Lodge for expulsion. Bro. Pumaville has appealed against the lodge's action. Your Board are of the opinion that even if proved that Bro. Pumaville had no legal right to teach owing to his failure to pass the Normal, it is no masonic offence for which the brother could be tried, as he had a good reason for thinking he had a perfect right to teach. Your Board believe that Bro. Pumaville had the right to teach, and recommend that the appeal be sustained and his suspension removed.

(7) Corinthian Lodge, No 96, vs. Bro. S. J. Sanford. Embezzlement of county funds during the year from 1885 to 1897 whilst Treasurer of the County of Simcoe.

He was tried by his lodge, indefinitely suspended and recommended to Grand Lodge for expulsion. The evidence is quite conclusive, and your Board recommend that W. Bro. S. J. Sanford be summoned before the next meeting of Grand Lodge to show why he should not be expelled from the Craft for the said offence.

(8) St. John's Lodge, No. 82, vs. W. Bro. C. M. Foley. Embezzlement from three parties of \$5,500.00.

W. Bro. Foley was proceeded against in the courts, pleaded guilty at Brantford on the 5th April, 1898, and was sentenced to the Provincial Penitentiary for a term of three years. He was tried by his lodge, suspended indefinitely and recommended to Grand Lodge for expulsion. Your Board recommend that Bro. Foley be summoned before Grand Lodge at its next meeting to show cause why he should not be expelled from the craft for the alleged offence.

(9) Bro. Henry Warner vs. W. Bro. S. Graut, W. M. of Union Lodge, No. 380, London. A complaint against the election of Messrs.

H. J. Carter and G. Park, candidates for initiation. The complainant alleges that at the meeting held on the 13th June, 1898, the W. Master declared to the members then present that the ballot would not be passed that evening for either of the persons named, and that the complainant and several others left the lodge-room for the evening; that subsequently, on the same evening, the W. M. ordered the ballot to be passed for the candidates, which was done, and they were elected, but have not been initiated.

W. Bro. Grant, in reply, admits the charge, but says he made the first declaration, believing himself to be within his rights; but after Bro. Warner and others had left, a more expert brother drew his attention to the constitution, which enacts that the ballot cannot be postponed, and he then caused the ballot to be passed. Bro. Warner has appeared before your Board and made a supplemental statement in writing, that he and some of those who left the meeting after the W. M. had stated the ballot would be postponed, did not consider either of the candidates desirable material to be taken into a Masonic lodge. Your Board recommend that the said elections be declared null and void, and that Union Lodge be instructed to order a new ballot for the September meeting, previous regular notice thereof being given to all the members of the lodge.

(10) W. Bro. Wright, vs. Seven Star Lodge, No. 285. Appeal against the lodge's dismissal of a charge laid against Bro. McGirr a member of the lodge for misappropriation of moneys. The appeal is lodged in time and the lodge has been duly notified thereof by the Grand Secretary, but they have not answered, nor forwarded any papers in the matter.

Your Board recommend that Seven Star Lodge be ordered to produce all books, evidence and papers touching the said charge and trial before the next meeting of Grand Lodge for investigation upon said appeal.

(11) Wingham Lodge, No. 286, vs. Blyth Lodge, No. 303.

According to the report on this case in Grand Lodge Proceedings, 1897, page 269, all papers were returned for further evidence on the question of distances between these lodges, it being a case of breach of jurisdiction. Your Board have now before them indisputable evidence of the breach of Blyth Lodge in the three cases complained of, and would recommend that Blyth Lodge pay over to Wingham Lodge the initiation fee in each of the three cases less the Grand Lodge fees. We also have evidence before us that the officers of Blyth Lodge took the material in each case knowing they were beyond their jurisdiction, and indeed in one case after Wingham Lodge had refused them permission to initiate him. We would recommend that a warning be sent Blyth Lodge that a repetition of the offence might be visited upon them by a severe punishment at the hands of Grand Lodge.

(12) Zeredatha Lodge, No. 220, vs. J. B. Hall Lodge, No. 145. Alleged breach of jurisdiction, see Grand Lodge Proceedings, 1897, page 269.

The matter was laid over for further consideration. Your Board now have evidence that it is not a question of breach of jurisdiction nor of section 214 of the Constitution, as it is quite clear the candidate was at the time of initiation living within the jurisdiction of the J. B. Hall Lodge, and that they had a certificate of character from Zeredatha Lodge. There has been a misconception of their rights by Zeredatha Lodge, and we recommend that the complaint and claim be dismissed.

(13) Great Western, No. 47, Atkinson vs. Allen.

This matter was dealt with by clause five of the report of the Board on Grievances and Appeals in 1897, page 268 Grand Lodge Proceedings. No further evidence was produced before your Board, but representatives from Great Western Lodge appeared before us, and failing to produce the additional evidence taken at the investigation, it being lost, wished to have a new trial of Bro. Allen for the alleged offences, and promising to remove the suspension of the brother in the meantime for the purposes of such new trial. We therefore recommend that the matter be dropped, and the papers in the hands of the Grand Secretary returned to Great Western Lodge.

(14) Marmora Lodge, No. 222, vs. Bro. Donald Clark. Reported in Grand Lodge Proceedings 1897, page 269, the matter was laid over for further evidence that the brother was properly tried by his lodge. The charge was larceny for which the brother was convicted by the courts and is now undergoing his sentence in the Central Prison. The evidence is now complete that Bro. Clark was regularly tried by his lodge, found guilty, suspended indefinitely and recommended to Grand Lodge for expulsion. Your Board recommend that Brother Clark be summoned before next meeting of Grand Lodge to show cause why he should not be expelled from the craft for the offence.

Fraternally submitted,

JAMES H. BURRITT,

Chairman Sub-Committee on Grievances and Appeals.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, seconded by R. W. Bro. J. H. Burrirt, and

Resolved, That the Report of the Board on Grievances and Appeals be received and (subsequently) adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON THE CONDITION OF MASONRY.

R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, on behalf the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT :

The Board have received and carefully perused the reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters of the eighteen Masonic Districts, as well as the tabulated statements accompanying them, and are pleased to report of the 359 lodges in the province, 352 have been officially visited during the year, and that many of them have been visited two and three times.

Only seven were not visited, viz.:

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Minerva Lodge, No. 304..... | Stroud. |
| Amity Lodge, No. 32..... | Dunnville. |
| Orono Lodge, No. 325..... | Orono. |
| Simpson Lodge, No. 157..... | Newboro. |
| Westport Lodge, No. 441..... | Westport. |
| Unity Lodge, No. 376..... | Huntsville. |
| Granite Lodge, No. 352..... | Parry Sound. |

These lodges, which for one cause or another have not been visited, should receive special attention this year.

The duties of the District Deputy Grand Masters have, in the opinion of the Board, been faithfully discharged.

A general improvement in the ritualistic work of the lodges is reported. This is attributed to the careful inspection, of late years, to the interchange of lodge visits, which are becoming more numerous every year, to the information received at Lodges of Instruction, and to the efforts made by Grand Lodge in the past few years in instructing the District Deputy Grand Masters in the essentials of the work.

One D. D. G. M. says "the effect of this latter wise policy is now seen in the uniform way in which all the lodges conduct the Ceremonies." Another reports "that every Master in his district is capable of working all the degrees in a most creditable manner."

Lodges of Instruction have been held in many of the districts, in one as many as three have been held, while in others the District Deputies have considered that they were doing even better work by giving instruction in each lodge, and by urging an interchange of lodge visitation. The Board, while approving of every proper means of imparting and gathering information and securing uniformity of work, are of opinion that at least one general Lodge of Instruction should be held in some central place in each district annually.

With the view of encouraging and strengthening weak lodges, the Board recommend to District Deputy Grand Masters that they should carefully read the reports of their predecessors and examine the tabulated statements of the lodges in their respective districts, and thereby acquaint themselves with their condition prior to their official visits of inspection. The information thus gathered will be very useful, and may enable them, by kindly suggestion, to get the lodges to see and remedy the causes which have contributed to their decadence. Irregularity of attendance, want of punctuality in opening the lodge, and carelessness in the collection of dues, the Board find, are the most prolific causes of the failure of lodges.

One District Deputy Grand Master says: "Irregularity of attendance of members at the lodge meetings is in a great measure the fault of the Worshipful Masters, for their tardiness in getting to work sharp on the hour required by the By-laws." Another says that in investigating into the cause of the weakly state of a lodge in his district he found it to be the neglect of the officers to open the lodge at the hour named. Owing to this neglect the brethren would loiter around, go to the lodge room at a late hour, have a talk, a smoke, and go home. In this frame of mind they ceased visiting other lodges. This, with the neglect of the officers to collect the lodge dues, soon placed the lodge in a condition so bad that it was reported as weak, and almost dormant. As a result of his efforts, interest was revived, the officers got to work, and, avoiding the causes which led to the condition in which it was, success returned. On the night of his official visit the second and third degrees were conferred on members, and since then there had been three initiations, and there is now before the lodge a bright future.

The Board are pleased to receive assurance that, as a rule, the Secretaries are painstaking officers, that the books are well kept, the lodges dues reasonably well collected, and that harmony prevails, not one serious trouble being reported in any of the eighteen districts, and that the lodges have invariably welcomed the visits of the District Deputy Grand Masters, and have eagerly received instruction and advice.

Many of the District Deputy Grand Masters report that the expenses of their visitations have been cheerfully paid by the lodges. Some report that with one or two exceptions their expenses have been paid, and others make no reference whatever to that subject. Grand Lodge having recommended that the expenses incurred by D. D. G. Masters in their annual visits of inspection should be paid by the lodges, Worshipful Masters should see that such expenses are paid, and should tender payment without requiring to be reminded of that duty; but when lodges are remiss in this respect the inspecting officers should regard it as a duty to see that they are reimbursed. The Board are pleased to receive assurance that, generally speaking, this requirement is observed, and trust that in future those painstaking officers who devote so much time to furthering the best interests of the lodges shall not in addition be put to an expense which, though trifling in each case, in the aggregate amounts to a sum which no individual Mason should be expected to pay.

The Board regret that some lodges have not furnished the statistics required by the tabulated statements furnished by the Grand Secretary. These they hope will be furnished before the proceedings of Grand Lodge are printed, but they must insist that in future they be sent to the D. D. G. Masters in time to accompany their reports. By those records the Board arrive at the conclusion that about eighty per cent. of the lodges are insured against loss by fire; and they urge upon D. D. G. Masters that the matter of insurance be presented by them to those lodges not insured.

The Board have ascertained that about sixty-five per cent. of the lodges have given of their lodge funds for benevolence; some lodges have given most liberally. One D. D. G. M. reports a lodge sustaining a Past Master who is unable, through ill-health, to support his family. Another reports that a lodge in his district, which he was given to understand was about to surrender its charter, has had a revival, as a result of a truly Masonic spirit exhibited by the members in looking after a brother who was ill. Some lodges have given in benevolence during the year large sums, viz., \$100, \$100, \$150, \$105, \$110, \$123, \$132, \$151, \$164, \$168, \$196, \$195, \$200, \$223, \$ 24, \$241. These fifteen lodges have thus distributed from the lodge funds during the year the sum of \$2,405. The other lodges have given sums ranging from \$90 to \$5, as the demands were made upon them, while some lodges were not called upon for any assistance whatever.

One lodge raised the sum of \$729 for benevolence this year, seven hundred dollars being raised by the members to furnish a Masonic ward in the Jubilee wing of the city hospital. Part of this sum has been expended in furnishings and part invested so as to produce an income to keep the ward perpetually in good order.

The Board rejoice at the continued close connection existing between religion and Masonry in this jurisdiction. This connection can and ought to be strengthened by districts and lodges arranging for their attendance in a body at religious services at least once in every year.

The Board observe with pleasure that some eminent and busy brethren have found time to deliver lectures and read papers at lodge meetings. It has been said that too much attention is given to the conferring of degrees, as if Masonry began and ended with the reception of the degrees. Of course, the great object of Masonry is to make Masons in the true sense of the term; but unless they are afterwards instructed in the history, the aims, the practices of the craft, as well as its literature, they will not attain to the stature of

the ideal Freemason. It is recommended that well read brethren be invited to address lodges on interesting and instructive topics from time to time as the circumstances of lodges may permit.

The Board have had to give some consideration to the question of the too close proximity of lodges, and have come to the conclusion that in some localities lodges are so close together as to be weakened to the verge of uselessness. It was found that where there would be an abundant field for one strong, progressive lodge which might be an object lesson to the community, sometimes two lodges exist, but are so weak as to be continually in the throes of dissolution. The Board are of opinion that when such a state of affairs exists, it is the duty of the lodges to get together and arrange honorable terms of amalgamation so that the reproach may be removed.

The Board find that on the whole the record of things proper to be written is fairly kept; but occasional lapses occur which must be deprecated. The Board desire to emphasize the necessity of each lodge having as secretary a brother who writes a plain, legible hand, and of insisting that under no circumstances should records intended to be permanent be written in pencil. We are led to make these remarks by discovering that in a few cases minutes were found unentered in the minute book months after the lodge meeting, and the D. D. G. M. could only see the rough minutes. For a secretary to imperil a record is worse than a blunder. We all recognize the value of ancient records and how proud we are to possess them. The secretary who through carelessness or laziness causes a break in the continuity of the records of a lodge is deserving of severe censure and will certainly earn the contempt of Masonic posterity.

The records of the District Deputy Grand Masters are, as usual, instructive and interesting, but the Board have not been able to overlook the fact that there is a good deal of extraneous matter in some of them. The interests of which these officers are in charge and have supervision are of great importance and it is expected these will be dealt with at some length in their reports. The progress of lodges numerically and financially, the causes of apathy and decadence, the frictions and their causes, the character of the work: these and other kindred matters are of general interest to the craft and ought to be fully reported upon for the information of Grand Lodge, but the Board fear that these matters are sometimes made subservient to a narration of the hospitalities, the courtesies and the amenities experienced by the representatives of the Grand Master in the various Districts. This ought not to be so, for the reports of these valuable officers are expected to be business-like documents dealing with important matters. Fraternal submitted,

HUGH MURRAY,

Chairman of Sub-Committee on Condition of Masonry.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, seconded by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, and

Resolved, That the Report of the Board on the Condition of Masonry be received and (subsequently) adopted.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF CONSTITUTION AND LAWS.

M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT :

The Board, through the Committee on Constitution and Laws, have honor to present the following report with reference to the notices of motion appearing in the notice paper.

No. 1 does not affect the Constitution. The division of the jurisdiction into districts has been effected by resolution of Grand Lodge and does not appear in the book of Constitution.

No. 2 is an amendment of the Constitution which is merely formal in character, and must be adopted if the division proposed by Motion No. 1 is carried into effect.

No. 3. The Board see no objection to the amendment proposed by Bro. McKnight. The words "or the District Deputy Grand Master," however, which follow those proposed to be struck out should also be omitted. The Board would suggest the recasting of the whole clause, which, as it stands, is somewhat awkwardly worded, as follows: "No public procession of the brethren as Masons clothed in any of the regalia of the craft, except a Masonic funeral shall on any pretence be allowed or take place without the permission of the Grand Master or the District Deputy Grand Master. The proceedings at any procession, including a funeral, which may be attended by the brethren, shall be immediately reported by the Master or Masters of the lodges taking part therein to the Grand Master through the Grand Secretary, and to the District Deputy Grand Master of the district in which the lodges are respectively situated.

No. 4. There are no constitutional objections to Bro. Cuthbert's motion, even if it is not adopted the Board could suggest that the words in Clause 16, "At which the place of holding the next communication shall be decided" should be struck out, as full provision has been made by Clauses 3a, and 3b, adopted at last communication of Grand Lodge for the selection of the place of meeting and the holding of that meeting at that place.

No. 5. Bro. Cuthbert seeks by his motion to rescind a rule or order framed by Grand Lodge in July, 1893. This motion does not affect the Constitution.

Fraternally submitted,

R. T. WALKEM,

Chairman Sub-Committee on Constitution and Laws.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, seconded by M. W. Bro. R. T. Walkem, and

Resolved.—That the Report of the Board on Constitution and Laws be received.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF JURISPRUDENCE.

R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT :

The Board, through the Committee on Jurisprudence, report that they have had before them certain questions arising in foreign jurisdictions, as to the standing of former members of the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario.

In the case of those members of our own lodges who were expelled by the Grand Lodge of Canada by reason of their connection with

that clandestine body, and who reside without our jurisdiction, it is recommended that the Grand Master be empowered to remove such expulsion, and to give such members the status of unaffiliated Masons in good standing.

In the case of members of the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario who were never members under the Grand Lodge of Canada, and who reside without our jurisdiction, it is recommended that the Grand Master be empowered to grant a waiver of jurisdiction whenever properly applied for.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

J. C. HEGLER,

Chairman Sub-Committee on Jurisprudence.

REPORT OF THE BOARD ON THE FRATERNAL DEAD.

R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT :

Our hearts are strangely stirred as we come together to review the past, to form new and renew old friendships, and to take counsel as to the future, by feelings of gratitude, mingled with feelings of deep regret. For all the mercies vouchsafed us by a loving Father we are profoundly grateful. For the losses sustained by our order and by ourselves personally in the fall of heroic brethren on the way during this year we naturally grieve.

Only last year they were with us taking part in the proceedings. We ever found them willing workers among the noblest in our noble band. Doubtless each had his own peculiar fault; but of each it may be truthfully said :

They helped the helpless with a cheerful zeal,
They felt for want as man should ever feel,
They shed the essence of our God around,
For God is seen where charity is found.

We miss the familiar faces. The well-known voices can no longer respond in cheery tones to our fraternal greetings. In our memories alone can we or would we call back our loved ones dead.

Every Masonic ceremony reminds us of the close connection between the cradle and the grave. Our beautiful rituals impress upon us the real nature of death as the entrance to a brighter, a purer, and a never-ending life, and assure us that "in our perishable frame there exists a vital and immortal principle which will enable us to trample death beneath our feet." The Sacred Volume assures us of a life beyond in which we shall enjoy an unspeakable felicity with the companions of our earthly toils.

With this prospect, and knowing that in the Paradise to which we are all rapidly tending, all the heartaches and farewells of earth never enter, it is as loyal craftsmen our imperative duty to rejoice when our worthy brethren are summoned to lay down the tools of operative labor and as a reward for their fidelity are translated from this imperfect to that all perfect lodge, there to be "fitted as choice stones in that spiritual building, that house not made with hands."

As we contemplate the changes that have taken place this year in the personnel of the membership of Grand Lodge the thought comes,

perhaps at the next communication the lists of the Fraternal Dead may embrace our names, for we are all hastening to the time when we shall be summoned. Then shall we meet our deceased brethren whom we mourn to-day.

Looking back upon the achievements of the "noble band who have delivered unto us unsullied this time-honored institution with its wealth of good deeds and blessings," and looking forward to the innumerable opportunities for promoting our brother's welfare, let us here resolve to continue steadfastly this good work until we are called to Eternal Refreshment. Let us cultivate the strength and the disposition to speak a kind word to an erring brother, to help the widow and the orphan, to bring gladness to many a heart now oppressed with care and anxiety.

Masonry instructs us to live that the sunshine of our Master shall abide in us, to be dispersed upon those we meet: so to live that the dread of dissolution may be dispelled and we joyfully pass into the light beyond, redeemed and delivered from the evils and dangers of mortality. She reminds us every morning that by our acts and words we are moulding our own and the destiny of others, and every evening when we have done we have left a deathless impression upon our own and upon our brother's character.

Then brethren in every trouble think "one more thread to my white garment." With every discouragement or with every experience in which we are triumphant over our inferior life think, "There is one more trophy, one more gem." With every moral victory think, "one more beam is added to the strength of that life which shall shine upon us at that last day." Think of that promise, "God shall wipe away every tear." With the hope of that unweeping eye of the glory that shall never be dimmed, let us live on in patience, in courage, in willingness to bear our own burdens and assist our weaker brethren.

While we drop a sympathetic tear for our departed friends, casting round "their faults and failures the broad mantle of a Mason's charity," let us thank the Great Architect for the sweet friendship of life—for the virtues that ennoble and make these friendships so dear to us; and let us pray Him to draw us yet more closely together in the bonds of brotherly love, and when we are called to pass into the unseen world may the examples left our successors prove an inspiration to cheer and bless other lives.

THE ROLL OF OUR FRATERNAL DEAD.

We mourn the decease of M. W. Bro. Daniel Spry, one of our most beloved and valued members, called from labor to refreshment August 12th, 1897. He had a large experience and took a lively interest in all branches of Masonry. Possessing great ability he was honored not alone in our own jurisdiction but throughout sister Grand Lodges in America and Europe. There were few positions of trust and honor which he has not held with great satisfaction to the craft and with credit to himself. One who knew him well (M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray) writes of him, "He was in every sense of the word a true man, one whose word was as good as his bond and whose friendship it was a pleasure to possess." In his last message the M. W. the Grand Master (W. M. Bro. W. Gibson, M. P.), regretting the absence of our lamented brother through severe sickness, said: "Brother Spry's genial face and kindly grasp will be sadly missed." His ability to comprehend at a glance the salient points of an argument and to enforce the same with knowledge joined to long experience placed him in the front rank of Grand Lodge legislators.

2. R. W. Bro. Geo. C. Davis, of London, was summoned on the 21st October, 1897. This brother was highly esteemed in his native city, where he filled municipal, political and fraternal positions with much acceptance. His geniality and open-heartedness gained for him a large circle of friends who were devotedly attached to him. No one was better known in Grand Lodge, in which he held the rank of Grand Junior Warden; he was for many years a member of the Board of General Purposes. But he will chiefly be remembered as chairman of the committee on the Fraternal Dead. His eloquent and inspiring reports of that committee attracted deserved attention for the deeply sympathetic vein which pervaded them.

3. Rt. Wor. Bro. George Inglis, of Owen Sound, Past Grand Junior Warden, was with us last year, an earnest and painstaking member of the Board of General Purposes. He possessed in a high degree the confidence and esteem of his brethren, who deeply regretted his decease.

4. R. W. Bro. Wm. McKay, P. M., Jerusalem Lodge, No. 31, of Bowmanville, was a P. D. D. G. M. of District No. 12. He died on the 6th Oct., 1897.

5. R. W. Bro. D. H. Hunter, P. M. Lodge No. 57, and P. D. G. M. Wilson District, died 21st May, 1898.

6. V. W. Bro. E. E. Loosely, P. M. Union Lodge, No. 7, Grimsby, and a Past Grand Sword Bearer, died

7. V. W. Bro. F. J. Rastrick, P. M. Acacia Lodge, No. 61, Hamilton, and a Past Grand Superintendent of Works, died 12th Sept., 1897.

8. V. W. Bro. George Risk, P. M. Plattsville Lodge, No. 178, and a Past Grand Steward, died 12th January, 1898.

To the family and friends of our departed brethren we tender our sincere sympathy; we recommend that memorial pages be dedicated to their memory and to that of others whose loss the brethren in any part of our jurisdiction may have been called upon to mourn.

Fraternally submitted,

E. D. PARLOW,

Chairman Sub-Committee on the Fraternal Dead.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, seconded by R. W. Bro. E. D. Parlow, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Board on the Fraternal Dead be received and adopted.

REPORT ON FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

M. W. Bro. Henry Robertson presented the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, when it was moved by R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, seconded by M. W. Bro. Henry Robertson, and

Resolved,—That the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be received and printed as an Appendix to the Proceedings.

CONSIDERATION OF NOTICES OF MOTION.

DIVISION OF TORONTO DISTRICT.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Thomas Sargant, seconded by R. W. Bro. Aubrey White, and

Resolved,—That the Toronto District, No. 11, be divided as follows:

Toronto West District No. 11, Lodges—54, Vaughan; 98, True Blue; 118, Union; 229, Ionic; 265, Patterson; 292, Robertson; 311, Blackwood; 356, River Park; 305, Humber; 369, Mimico; 156, York; 426, Stanley Mills; 22, King Solomon's; 65, Rehoboam; 86, Wilson; 247, Ashlar; 326, Zetland; 346, Occident; 384, Alpha; 438, Harmony.

Toronto East District No. 11a, Lodges—23, Richmond; 87, Markham Union; 97, Sharon; 129, Rising Sun; 136, Richardson; 220, Zeradatha; 269, Brougham Union; 354, Brock; 424, Doric; 430, Acacia; 339, Orient; 16, St. Andrew's; 25, Ionic; 75, St. John's; 218, Stevenson; 316, Doric; 343, Georgina; 367, St. George; 410, Zeta.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Thos. Sargent, seconded by R. W. Bro. Aubrey White, and

Resolved,—That the word "West" be inserted after the word Toronto in the seventeenth line on page 26 in the Book of Constitution, and that the following words be inserted between the seventeenth and eighteenth lines. "District Deputy Grand Master, Toronto East District, No. 11a."

CALLED OFF.

The Grand Lodge was called from labor to refreshment, to meet again on Thursday, 21st July, at 10 o'clock, forenoon.

SECOND DAY.

THURSDAY, 21st July, A. D. 1898.

The Grand Lodge resumed labor at 10 a. m.

PRESENT.

M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson, on the Throne.

GRAND OFFICERS, MEMBERS AND REPRESENTATIVES.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Grand Secretary read the following letters:

1. FROM OUR REPRESENTATIVE NEAR THE G. L. OF PORTUGAL:

LISBON, Portugal, 2nd April, 1898.

To the Officers and Members of the Grand Lodge of A. F. & A. M. of Canada:

DEAR BRETHREN:

As the time approaches for the national celebration of the quincentenary of the discovery of the Indies by the Portuguese navigator

Vasco da Gama, as a proof of friendship on the part of the G. Order of Portugal, and Supreme Masonic Council, I place myself at your disposition for all necessary information that our brethren may desire to obtain; and I shall be happy to be of service to any brethren visiting this valley.

Yours fraternally,

JOAS CAETANO D'ALMEIDA,
Representative of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

2. FROM THE GRAND SECRETARY OF THE G. L. OF VIRGINIA:

RICHMOND, Va., Jan. 29th, 1898.

M. WOR. WILLIAM GIBSON,

Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Canada:

MOST WORSHIPFUL BROTHER:

In compliance with the mandate of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, as contained in the inclosed report, it affords me very great pleasure to extend to your Grand Lodge Virginia's cordial invitation to be present at, and participate in, the memorial ceremonies incident to the observance of the death of *Worshipful Brother, George Washington, to be held at Mount Vernon, on December 14th, 1899*, in the person of the Grand Master, or such alternate as he may appoint.

Full information as to the details of the ceremonies on that occasion will, in due time, be forwarded to your Grand Lodge by the Special Committee of Arrangements appointed by the Grand Lodge of Virginia.

Hoping to be notified at an early day of your acceptance of this invitation, I have the honor to be,

Yours fraternally,

GEO. W. CARRINGTON,
Grand Secretary.

3. FROM THE GRAND SECRETARY OF THE G. L. OF NEBRASKA:

Trans-Mississippi and Intercolonial Exposition.
June to November, 1898.

Freemasonry Room, No. 22, Nebraska Building.

OMAHA, Neb., June 28th, 1898.

J. J. MASON, ESQ.,

Grand Sec'y G. L. of Canada,

Hamilton, Ont.,

DEAR SIR AND BRO.,—We beg to advise you that in conformity with instructions of Nebraska Grand Bodies, Freemasonry Room, No. 22, Nebraska State Building, Trans-Mississippi and International Exposition, has been furnished, established, and will be maintained during the Exposition, for the use and convenience of Freemasons.

We therefore take pleasure in extending to you and through you to all Freemasons and their families of your jurisdiction, a cordial

invitation to make said room their own while visiting the Exposition.

Yours fraternally,

ROBT. W. FURNAS,
Chairman.

WM. R. BOWEN,
Secretary.

4. FROM THE GRAND SECRETARY OF THE G. L. OF ENGLAND:

United Grand Lodge of England,
Freemason's Hall,
Great Queen St., London, W. C.

30th September, 1897.

DEAR SIR AND V. W. BROTHER:

I have the pleasure to transmit you the enclosed communication, which has reached me in reference to the address to Her Majesty the Queen from the Freemasons under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

I am, Dear Sir and V. W. Brother,

Yours faithfully and fraternally,

E. LETCHWORTH,

V. W. BRO. J. J. MASON,
Grand Secretary Grand Lodge of Canada.

Grand Secretary.

DOWNING STREET, 29th September, 1897.

SIR,—I am directed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th ultimo, transmitting for presentation to the Queen an address from the Freemasons under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Canada.

The Secretary of State has now laid this address before Her Majesty, and I am to request that you will be good enough to inform the Grand Secretary, Mr. J. J. Mason, of Hamilton, Ontario, that Her Majesty was pleased to receive it with an expression of her gratification at the feelings of loyalty and devotion which are held towards her by the Freemasons of Canada, and that the Secretary of State has received Her Majesty's commands to convey her cordial thanks to the members of the Grand Lodge for their kind and dutiful messages.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

EDWARD WINGFIELD.

E. LETCHWORTH, ESQ.

CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES.

R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf, on behalf of the Committee on Credentials of Representatives, presented and read the following

REPORT :

The Committee on Credentials of Representatives of this Grand Lodge beg to report that there are 360 warranted lodges on the Grand Register : 226 are represented by their duly qualified officers ; 71 are represented by proxy ; 19 are not represented by proxy but have Past Masters present ; 44 are unrepresented in any way. There are 967 names registered, having a total of 1,565 votes.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

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| WILLIAM ROAF. | } Committee. |
| A. R. HARGRAFT, | |
| EDWARD B. BROWN, | |

It was moved by R. W. Bro. Wm. Roaf, seconded by R. W. Bro. A. R. Hargraft, and

Resolved,—That the Supplementary Report of the Committee on Credentials of Representatives and Proxies be received and adopted.

REPORT ON THE BOARD ON THE GRAND MASTER'S ADDRESS.

R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, on behalf of the Board, presented and read the following

REPORT :

The Board view with pleasure the increased prosperity of the subordinate lodges and the skill exhibited by their Worshipful Masters and officers. The praise bestowed on the various D. D. G. M.'s is well deserved, and the advice given by the Grand Master regarding the selection of officers to preside over districts should be strictly adhered to.

The Board can again congratulate Grand Lodge on its financial standing.

It is gratifying to the Board to learn that the system adopted last year by which temporary relief might be granted to deserving cases during the interval between the meetings of Grand Lodge has been the means of affording relief to several deserving persons. The thanks of Grand Lodge are due to the Committee on Benevolence for the careful attention given by them to all applications for relief. Too much praise cannot be bestowed on the Investigating Officer for the careful and systematic manner in which he performed his arduous duties. His services are invaluable. The remarks of the Grand Master regarding the action of lodges in sending out printed appeals to other lodges on behalf of needy brethren receive the hearty approval of this Board.

The Board again express their approval of the Grand Master's views on the benefits derived by this Grand Lodge from its connection with the General Masonic Relief Association.

The Board note with pleasure the Grand Master's account of the good work performed by him in the dedication of lodges and laying of corner stones during the year. His remarks regarding the information to be supplied to the Grand Secretary when the services of Grand Lodge are required in the ceremony of laying corner stones have our approval.

The great number of official and fraternal visits made by the

Grand Master during the year, not only in his own, but in foreign jurisdictions entitles him to the thanks of Grand Lodge. Although great praise is given by him (and deservedly so) to the various D. D. G. M.'s for their activity during the year, still all will agree that the great prosperity we are now enjoying is due in no small measure to the personal attention and good advice given by him to the various lodges which he honored by his presence. He has endeared himself to all. His time has been generously placed at the disposal of the brethren, and it is safe to say that no more popular Grand Master has ever adorned the Grand Lodge.

The Board coincide with the remarks of the Grand Master on the necessity of having lodges of instruction.

The Board recommend for approval and confirmation the appointment of Grand Lodge representatives mentioned and referred to in the Grand Master's address.

The Board approve of the recommendation of the Grand Master that memorial pages be set apart in the proceedings for the deceased brethren mentioned by him. The committee on the fraternal dead has already presented their report to Grand Lodge, and has therein made suitable reference to the deceased brethren.

The views of the Grand Master regarding the conduct of the Grand Lodge of Peru in temporarily removing the Bible from its altar receives the hearty endorsement of the Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge of Peru is to be congratulated on having receded from the untenable position taken by its late Grand Master.

In conclusion the Board desire to again congratulate the Grand Master on his successful career, and desire to express the feelings of the whole craft towards him as contained in a recent issue of one of the Masonic periodicals. He enjoys the confidence, respect and esteem of the entire craft. His popularity is not confined to distinguished brethren, but is equally shared by the humblest Mason in the Province. Possessing an intimate knowledge of human nature, executive ability of a high order, combined with a genial disposition, M. W. Bro. Wm. Gibson has endeared himself to the brethren of the jurisdiction over which he has ruled so acceptably for the past two years.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

E. T. MALONE,

Chairman Sub Committee on Grand Master's Address.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone, seconded by M. W. Bro. Hy. Robertson, and

Resolved,—That the Report of the Board on the Address of the M. W. the Grand Master be received and adopted.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON ASYLUM FUND.

R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, on behalf of the Special Committee on the Asylum Fund, presented and read the following

REPORT :

To the Most Worshipful the Grand Master and the Grand Lode of A. F. & A. M. of Canada :

Your committee have taken steps since the last Annual Communi-

cation to ascertain whether it would be advisable to recommend to Grand Lodge that a Home for Aged and Indigent Masons should be established, such as that which was projected by those who were instrumental in inducing Grand Lodge to create the Asylum Fund.

Your committee have reluctantly come to the conclusion that at the present time there does not exist amongst the Masons of this jurisdiction sufficient regard or enthusiasm for the project to warrant any present attempt to establish such a Home.

There is now at the credit of the fund \$15,227.75.

Your committee consider that it is not vested with the duty of making any recommendation upon the subject of how this fund shall be dealt with.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

WALTER BARWICK,

Secretary of Com.

JOHN E HARDING,

Chairman.

It was moved by R. W. Bro. J. E. Harding, seconded by W. Bro. Walter Barwick, and

Resolved,— That the report of the Special Committee on the Asylum Fund be received and adopted and the committee discharged.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The M. W. the Grand Master appointed scrutineers of the ballot for Grand Officers and elective members of the Board of General Purposes, and upon their report, the following were declared duly elected as office bearers for the ensuing term, namely :

M. W. Bro. E. T. Malone Toronto Grand Master.
 R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford London Deputy Grand Master.
 R. W. Bro. C. W. Postlethwaite. Toronto Grand Senior Warden.
 R. W. Bro. Henry Rush Peterboro Grand Junior Warden.
 R. W. Bro. Rev. H. S. Matthews. New Market. Grand Chaplain.
 M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray Hamilton Grand Treasurer.
 R. W. Bro. L. A. Congdon Dunnville Grand Registrar.
 R. W. Bro. J. J. Mason Hamilton Grand Secretary.

And by an open vote of Grand Lodge

Bro. John Sweetman Ottawa Grand Tyler.

BOARD OF GENERAL PURPOSES.

R. W. Bro. L. Secord, M. D., Brantford.
 R. W. Bro. J. C. Hegler, Ingersoll.
 R. W. Bro. B. Allen, Toronto.
 R. W. Bro. A. R. Hargraft, Cobourg.
 R. W. Bro. J. S. Dewar, London.

Subsequently the M. W. the Grand Master was pleased to announce the following appointments on the Board for the ensuing term, namely :

R. W. Bro. D. F. Macwatt, Barrie.
 R. W. Bro. Wm. Rea, Ottawa.
 R. W. Bro. D. H. Martyn, M. D., Kincardine.
 R. W. Bro. J. F. Graham, Prescott.
 R. W. Bro. P. W. D. Brodrick, London.

DISTRICT DEPUTY GRAND MASTERS.

The following brethren were nominated by the representatives of lodges as District Deputy Grand Masters for their respective Districts, and were appointed by the M. W. the Grand Master, viz :

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|--------------|------------|
| R.W. Bro. R. Hillier, M.D.... | Leamington.. | Erie | Dis. No. 1 |
| R.W. Bro. Arch'd Weir..... | Sarnia..... | St. Clair | " 2 |
| R.W. Bro. Samuel Dubber..... | St. Thomas... | London | " 3 |
| R.W. Bro. W. J. Mooney..... | Stratford..... | South Huron | " 4 |
| R.W. Bro. Wm. Irwin..... | Listowel..... | North Huron | " 5 |
| R.W. Bro. C. L. Merritt..... | Scotland..... | Wilson | " 6 |
| R.W. Bro. R. J. Lockhart..... | Hespeler..... | Wellington | " 7 |
| R.W. Bro. A. T. Freed..... | Hamilton.... | Hamilton | " 8 |
| R.W. Bro. J. C. Morgan..... | Barrie..... | Georgian | " 9 |
| R.W. Bro. John A. Hoshal.... | Cayuga..... | Niagara | " 10 |
| R.W. Bro. C. McK. Morrison.. | Toronto..... | Toronto East | " 11 |
| R.W. Bro. James Glanville.... | Toronto..... | Toronto West | " 11a |
| R.W. Bro. James Evans..... | Port Hope.... | Ontario | " 12 |
| R.W. Bro. H. G. Stafford.... | Ameliasburgh. | P. Edward | " 13 |
| R.W. Bro. L. S. Lewis..... | Newbro..... | Frontenac | " 14 |
| R.W. Bro. Geo. Rook..... | Prescott..... | St. Lawrence | " 15 |
| R.W. Bro. Geo. S. May..... | Ottawa..... | Ottawa | " 16 |
| R.W. Bro. Allan McDougall.. | Fort William. | Algoma | " 17 |
| R.W. Bro. Richard Mills..... | Bracebridge.. | Nipissing | " 18 |

NEXT PLACE OF MEETING.

It was decided upon ballot that the next annual Communication of Grand Lodge should be held at the city of Ottawa.

RESOLUTIONS OF THANKS.

In was moved by M. W. Bro. R. T. Walken, seconded by M. W. Bro. W. R. White, and

Resolved,—That the thanks of the Grand Lodge are due, and are hereby tendered to the Committee on Credentials and Scrutineers of Ballot for their valuable and efficient services.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, seconded by M. W. Bro. J. M. Gibson, and

Resolved,—That the cordial thanks of the Grand Lodge are due, and are hereby tendered to the Committee of Management of the Toronto lodges for the satisfactory arrangements made for the holding of the present Annual Communication.

DEATH OF THE LATE M. W. BRO. DANIEL SPRY

It was moved by R. W. Bro. D. F. Macwatt, seconded by R. W. Bro. R. L. Gunn, and

Resolved,—That the M. W. the Grand Master be requested to appoint a committee to draft a resolution of condolence respecting the death of M. W. Bro. Daniel Spry.

The M. W. the Grand Master appointed on the Committee M. W. Bro. A. A. Stevenson, and R. W. Bros. D. F. Macwatt and J. J. Mason.

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS.

M. W. Bro. J. Ross Robertson, assisted by M. W. Bros. Hugh Murray, A. A. Stevenson and J. M. Gibson, proceeded with the installation and investiture of the newly elected officers, who were proclaimed and saluted with the customary Masonic honors.

APPOINTED OFFICERS.

At a subsequent date the M. W. the Grand Master was pleased to notify the Grand Secretary of the following appointments to office for the ensuing year, viz.:

- V. W. Bro. C. J. Hohl, Toronto, Grand Senior Deacon.
 “ W. Borthwick, Ottawa, Grand Junior Deacon.
 “ S. Robertson, Stratford, Grand Supt. of Works.
 “ J. A. Cox, Hamilton, Grand Dir. of Ceremonies.
 “ Jos. Tomlinson, Toronto, Asst. Grand Secretary.
 “ Jos. Hall, Windsor, Asst. Grand Dir. of Ceremonies.
 “ Jacob Hoffman, Port Hope, Grand Sword Bearer.
 “ F. D. Kent, M. D., Clarksburg, Grand Organist.
 “ T. D. Pruyn, Napanee, Asst. Grand Organist.
 “ Alex. Gibson, Peterborough, Grand Pursuivant.
 “ G. N. Rose, Waupoos, Grand Steward.
 “ John D. Dewar, Lobo, Grand Steward.
 “ Alex. Wyness, Fordwich, Grand Steward.
 “ Chas. McDonald, M. D., Tilsonburg, Gr. Steward.
 “ Chas. Turnbull, Galt, Grand Steward.
 “ J. G. Carruthers, Cayuga, Grand Steward.
 “ F. C. Perry, Fort William, Grand Steward.
 “ F. A. Latshaw, Dundas, Grand Steward.
 “ John Smith, Plantagenet, Grand Steward.
 “ C. C. Norris, North Toronto, Grand Steward.
 “ W. E. Foote, Parry Sound, Grand Steward.
 “ W. E. Sawyer, Mt. Brydges, Grand Steward.
 “ J. W. Jones, Toronto, Grand Standard Bearer.
 “ E. A. Geiger, Brockville, Grand Standard Bearer.

TESTIMONIAL TO M. W. BRO. WM. GIBSON.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. J. M. Gibson, seconded by M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray, and

Resolved,—That the Grand Master be requested to appoint a Committee to procure and present a suitable testimonial to M. W. Wm. Gibson, Past Grand Master, in recognition of the valuable services rendered by him to the Craft in this jurisdiction during the past two years.

Whereupon the M. W. the Grand Master was pleased to appoint M. W. Bro. J. M. Gibson (Convener), M. W. Bro. Hugh Murray and R. W. Bro. R. B. Hungerford.

THE GRAND LODGE CLOSED.

The business of Grand Lodge being ended, it was closed at 5 o'clock p. m., in *ample form*.

ATTEST:



J. J. Maxon

Grand Secretary.

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT JUNE 24TH, 1898, AND

Lodges marked (a) hold their Installation of Officers on the Festival of St. John

| No. of Lodge. | Lodge. | Where Held. | Night of Meeting. | W. Master. | Secretary. |
|---------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 2 | Niagara..... | Niagara | W. on or b. f. m | W. E. Lyall..... | P. E. Best |
| 3 | aThe An. St. John's | Kingston | 1st Thursday.. | Jno. S. Skinner... | John Kinghorn... |
| 5 | aSussex | Brockville | 3rd Monday .. | T. H. Parsley | Geo. K. Dewey ... |
| 6 | Barton | Hamilton | 2d Monday | J. G. Gauld | S. G. Moore |
| 7 | Union | Grimsby | Th. on or b. f. m | Richard Lipsit... | David Sykes |
| 9 | aUnion | Napanee | F. on or b. f. m | W. S. Herrington .. | R. L. Henry..... |
| 10 | aNorfolk | Simcoe | Tu. on or b. f. m | W. P. Price..... | Wm. P. Kelly..... |
| 11 | aMoira | Belleville | W. on or b. f. m | Wesley Latimer .. | Herbert Austin... |
| 14 | aTrue Britons..... | Perth | 1st Monday | Frank V. Buffam .. | W. A. Moore |
| 15 | St. George's..... | St. Cathar's | Tu. on or b. f. m | W. H. Merritt, MD .. | A. N. Lindsay... |
| 16 | aSt. Andrew's..... | Toronto | 2nd Tuesday .. | F. M. Bell-Smith .. | J. F. Slater |
| 17 | St. John's..... | Cobourg..... | Tu. on or b. f. m | A. J. Hew on | E. A. Macnaughtn |
| 18 | aPrince Edward... | Pictou | Th. on or b. f. m | R. H. Hubbs | J. H. Murney..... |
| 20 | aSt. Johns | London | 2nd Tuesday .. | John Jones | M. D. Dawson ... |
| 21a | aSt. John's..... | Vankiek Hill | Tu. on or b. f. m | A. F. Robertson .. | J. A. Ferguson ... |
| 22 | aKing Solomon's... | Toronto | 2d Thursday .. | W. W. Vikers | Thos. A. Lyon ... |
| 23 | Richmond..... | Richm'd Hill | M. on or b. f. m | Ernest Coombs... | H. A. Nicholls ... |
| 24 | aSt. Francis..... | Smith's Falls | F. on or b. f. m | Thos. Jones | J. A. Houston ... |
| 25 | aIonic | Toronto | 1st Tuesday .. | E. B. Brown | A. P. Barrett |
| 26 | aOntario | Port Hope | 3rd Thursday .. | Harold Barrett .. | W. J. Robertson .. |
| 27 | aStrictObservance | Hamilton | 3rd Friday | Walder Parke | Wm. C. Morton... |
| 28 | aMount Zion..... | Kemptville | W. b. f. m | Wm. Dilla: e..... | W. H. Bottom |
| 29 | aUnited..... | Brighton | Th. on or b. f. m | Rev A. K. McLeod .. | T. P. Keeler..... |
| 30 | aComposite..... | Whitby | 1st Thursday .. | Jo. King | Robert Willis..... |
| 31 | aJerusalem | Bowman's Ile | W. on or b. f. m | D. B. Simpsen | Jos. Pattinson... |
| 32 | aAmity | Dunnville | W. on or a. f. m | J. C. Eccles | Robert McKeever |
| 33 | aMaitland | Goderich | 2nd Tuesday .. | Geo. Porter | Ross A. Rastal ... |
| 34 | aThistle..... | Amherstb'rg | Tu. on or b. f. m | Thos. Hopley, MD .. | F. M. Falls |
| 35 | St. John's..... | Cayuga | Th. on or a. f. m | L. L. Barber | C. C. Gibson..... |
| 37 | aKing Hiram..... | Ingersoll | 1st Friday | J. M. C. Currie | H. Rowland |
| 38 | aTrent..... | Trenton | Tuesday b. f. m | S. B. McClung | C. R. Howell |
| 39 | aMount Zion..... | Brooklin | Tu. on or b. f. m | Fred Kerr | E. R. Eddy |
| 40 | aSt. John's..... | Hamilton | 3rd Thursday .. | Jas. F. Merser | W. J. McAllister. |
| 41 | aSt. George's..... | Kingsville | Th. on or b. f. m | Prosper D. White .. | Geo. Rumble..... |
| 42 | aSt. George's..... | London | 1st Wednesday .. | Chas. Buskard | A. Ellis |
| 43 | King Solomon's... | Woodstock..... | 1st Tuesday .. | Walter Shaver..... | A. McGachie |
| 44 | aSt. Thomas | St. Thomas..... | 1st Thursday .. | W. L. Wickett | L. Slater |
| 45 | Brant | Brantford | 2nd Tuesday .. | Fred. W. Frank | John E. Taylor... |
| 46 | aWellington..... | Chatham | 1st Monday | L. F. Wilson | Alex. Gregory |
| 47 | aGreat Western... | Windsor | Th. on or b. f. m | Geo. B. Quamby .. | I. P. McConnell .. |
| 48 | aMadoc | Madoc | Tu. on or b. f. m | A. H. Watson | R. T. Gray..... |
| 50 | aConsecon..... | Consecon | F. on or b. f. m | J. A. Arthur | W. R. McKibbon .. |
| 52 | Dalhousie | Ottawa | 1st Tuesday .. | S. M. Rogers | C. S. Scott |
| 54 | aVaughan | Maple | Tu. on or b. f. m | John T. Saigon..... | Gus Sisley |
| 55 | aMerrickville..... | Merrickville | Tu. on or b. f. m | J. S. E. Angus..... | Thos. Culbert ... |
| 56 | aVictoria..... | Sarnia | 1st Tuesday .. | W. R. Paul..... | W. F. B. Colter... |
| 57 | aHarmony | Binbrook..... | W. on or b. f. m | W. G. Fletcher..... | J. F. Senn |
| 58 | aDoric | Ottawa | 1st Friday | W. J. Kidd | J. F. Argue |
| 61 | aAcacia | Hamilton | 2nd Friday | Adolph S. Levy | C. O. Nichol..... |
| 62 | aSt. Andrew's..... | Caledonia | W. on or b. f. m | Jas. Benfie | John Thompson .. |
| 63 | aSt. John's..... | Carleton Place .. | 2d Wednesday .. | D. H. McIntosh .. | A. T. Hudson..... |
| 64 | aKilwinning..... | London | 3rd Thursday .. | John Paul..... | John Overell..... |
| 65 | aRehoam | Toronto | 1st Thursday .. | John McCurrish .. | R. W. Clewlo..... |
| 66 | aDurham | Newcastle..... | Tu. on or b. f. m | Rev. J. Farncomb .. | E. Simmons |
| 68 | aSt. John's..... | Ingersoll | 3rd Friday | Angus McLeod..... | Wm. Ewart..... |
| 69 | Stirling | Stirling | Th. after f. m .. | W. Boardman..... | Geo. Bailey |
| 72 | Alma | Galt | Last Tuesday .. | Robt. Hunter..... | Andrew J. Oliver .. |
| 73 | aSt. James..... | St. Mary's | 1st Monday | Jas. A. Donald | A. Carman |
| 74 | aSt. James..... | Bethel | M. nearest f. m | C. J. Johns..... | Syrenus Cole..... |
| 75 | aSt. John's..... | Toronto | 1st Monday | Jas. G. Boyce..... | E. J. C. Ashmore... |
| 76 | aOxford | Woodstock..... | 2d Monday | Fred Millman..... | Robt. Anderson .. |
| 77 | aFaithful Breth'n | Lindsay | 1st Friday | J. W. Britton..... | John Kelley |
| 78 | aKing Hiram..... | Tilsonburg..... | W. on or b. f. m | R. W. Armstrong .. | L. B. C. Livingst'n |
| 79 | aSimcoe..... | Bradford | F. on or b. f. m | Geo. Ogilvie..... | Jas. Lawson |
| 81 | aSt. John's..... | Mt. Brydges..... | Tu. on or b. f. m | A. Campbell..... | Thomas C. West .. |
| 82 | St. John's..... | Paris | Tu. on or b. f. m | Jas. R. Inks er..... | W. Barrowclough .. |

LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31st MAY, 1898.

the Evangelist; all others on that St. John the Baptist.

| No. of Lodges. | Initial'd | Passed. | Raised. | Joined. | With- drawn. | Deaths. | S. N. P. D. | S. U. M. C. | Ex- pelled. | Re- stored. | Total M'emb's | Last Returns | Ledger. | | Paid Grand Lodge. |
|----------------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|--------------|---------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|---------|---------|-------------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | Dr. Bal | Cr. Bal | |
| 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | | | | | | 1 | 45 | June '98 | | 25 75 | |
| 3 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | | | | | 145 | " | \$ 3 00 | 85 00 | |
| 5 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 5 | | | | 146 | " | 3 00 | 46 00 | |
| 6 | 8 | 4 | 4 | 4 | | 6 | | | | | 309 | June '97 | 10 75 | 86 75 | |
| 7 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | | 3 | | | | | 58 | June '98 | | 45 20 | |
| 9 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 3 | | | | | | | 86 | " | 24 25 | 29 00 | |
| 10 | 5 | 9 | 9 | 2 | | | | | | 1 | 91 | " | 27 25 | 53 00 | |
| 11 | 16 | 10 | 7 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 15 | | | 5 | 147 | " | | 96 50 | |
| 14 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | | | | | | | 94 | " | | 57 00 | |
| 15 | 2 | 3 | 3 | | | 3 | 3 | | | 3 | 77 | " | 39 25 | 2 00 | |
| 16 | 11 | 14 | 13 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 3 | | | 4 | 233 | " | | 158 25 | |
| 17 | 2 | 2 | | | | | | | | | 73 | " | | 37 00 | |
| 18 | 19 | 9 | 8 | | 2 | 1 | 12 | | | | 170 | " | | 108 50 | |
| 20 | 14 | 12 | 13 | 1 | | 3 | 7 | | | | 169 | " | | 185 50 | |
| 21a | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 7 | | 9 | | | | 35 | " | | 37 00 | |
| 22 | 14 | 11 | 7 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 5 | | | | 165 | " | | 114 00 | |
| 23 | 4 | 3 | 3 | | 1 | | | | | | 29 | " | | 19 00 | |
| 24 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | 2 | 95 | " | 2 00 | 59 50 | |
| 25 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 13 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 1 | | | 200 | " | | 102 00 | |
| 26 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 | | | | | 2 | 84 | " | | 46 25 | |
| 27 | 8 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 | | | | 254 | " | | 152 25 | |
| 28 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 30 | " | | 15 50 | |
| 29 | 19 | 18 | 20 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 4 | | | 2 | 74 | " | | 61 50 | |
| 30 | | | | 1 | 2 | | 2 | | | | 63 | " | | 39 25 | |
| 31 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | | 2 | 2 | | | | 40 | " | | 17 00 | |
| 32 | | 1 | 3 | | 1 | 1 | | | | | 65 | " | 34 25 | 62 50 | |
| 33 | 5 | 4 | 3 | | 4 | | 1 | | | | 101 | " | 28 50 | 74 50 | |
| 34 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 2 | | | | | | | 46 | " | | 26 50 | |
| 35 | 14 | 11 | 5 | 2 | 2 | | 2 | | | | 72 | " | | 74 00 | |
| 37 | 8 | 8 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 68 | " | | 34 00 | |
| 38 | 5 | 3 | 3 | | 1 | 1 | | | | 5 | 69 | " | | 39 50 | |
| 39 | | | | | | | | | | | | June '97 | | 17 75 | |
| 40 | 14 | 15 | 14 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 9 | | | 1 | 354 | June '98 | | 225 50 | |
| 41 | 7 | 3 | | 3 | 3 | 3 | | | | | 72 | " | | 61 25 | |
| 42 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | | | | 1 | 114 | Dec '97 | | 154 00 | |
| 43 | 11 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 9 | | | | 79 | June '98 | | 46 00 | |
| 44 | 10 | 10 | 11 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 5 | | | 2 | 147 | " | | 114 50 | |
| 45 | 9 | 8 | 7 | | 3 | | | | | | 120 | " | 40 25 | 45 00 | |
| 46 | 1 | | 2 | 2 | | 1 | 1 | | | | 111 | Dec. '97 | | 73 75 | |
| 47 | 11 | 8 | 10 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 2 | | | 3 | 152 | June '98 | | 106 00 | |
| 48 | | | | | | | | | | | 82 | Dec. '96 | | 2 00 | |
| 50 | 2 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | 38 | Dec. '97 | | 28 50 | |
| 52 | 7 | 6 | 6 | | 1 | 3 | | | | 1 | 114 | June '98 | | 71 00 | |
| 54 | | | | 1 | | 3 | | | | | 39 | " | | 21 00 | |
| 55 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | | | 3 | | | 2 | 54 | " | | 33 25 | |
| 56 | 14 | 11 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 83 | " | | 66 75 | |
| 57 | 3 | 3 | 4 | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 47 | " | | 44 25 | |
| 58 | 6 | 5 | 4 | | | | | | | 1 | 104 | " | 10 00 | 35 75 | |
| 61 | 13 | 13 | 12 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | | 3 | 249 | " | | 164 75 | |
| 62 | | | 1 | 1 | 5 | | 7 | | | | 33 | " | 10 75 | 30 75 | |
| 63 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | | | | 95 | Dec. '97 | \$ 2 00 | 56 00 | |
| 64 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | | | | 143 | " | | 82 00 | |
| 65 | 19 | 18 | 18 | 2 | 8 | 3 | | | | 9 | 226 | June '98 | 6 00 | 107 00 | |
| 66 | 2 | 2 | 2 | | | | | | | | 30 | Dec. '97 | | 21 00 | |
| 68 | 3 | 2 | 2 | | 1 | | | | | | 67 | June '98 | | 56 50 | |
| 69 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | | | | | | 55 | Dec. '97 | | 29 00 | |
| 72 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | | | | 74 | June '98 | | 29 75 | |
| 73 | | | | 2 | | 1 | | | | 1 | 64 | " | | 33 00 | |
| 74 | | | | 1 | | | | | | | 37 | " | 10 00 | 25 75 | |
| 75 | 17 | 15 | 16 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 6 | | | 1 | 297 | " | | 170 75 | |
| 76 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 | | 4 | | | | 92 | Dec. '97 | | 61 00 | |
| 77 | 2 | 2 | 1 | | 3 | | | | | 1 | 87 | " | | 52 25 | |
| 78 | 12 | 15 | 19 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 14 | | | 5 | 112 | June '98 | | 75 00 | |
| 79 | 3 | 2 | 2 | | 1 | | | | | | 28 | " | | 13 50 | |
| 81 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | 1 | 52 | " | 1 00 | 28 50 | |
| 82 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 4 | | 4 | | | | 45 | " | | 68 75 | |

RETURN OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1898, AND

| No. of Lodge. | Lodge. | Where Held. | Night of Meeting. | W. Master. | Secretary. |
|---------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| 83 | aBeaver..... | Strathroy... | F. on or a.f.m | John Robertson | R. F. Richardson |
| 84 | aClinton..... | Clinton..... | F. on or a.f.m | Oliver Johnston | Thos. Rumball... |
| 85 | aRising Sun..... | Athens..... | Th.on or b.f.m | Albert Moulton.. | Jas. Ross..... |
| 86 | aWilson..... | Toronto..... | 3rd Tuesday.. | E. M. Carlton... | Geo. McLeish... |
| 87 | Markham Union... | Markham..... | F. on or b.f.m | R. J. Green..... | R. A. Mason..... |
| 88 | St. George's..... | Owen Sound.. | W. on or b.f.m | Jno. M.Campbell | John Rutherford |
| 90 | aManito..... | Collingwood.. | W. on or a.f.m | S. D. Andrews.... | F. W. Churchill |
| 91 | aColborne..... | Colborne..... | F. on or b.f.m | W. Ballamy..... | Geo. Keyes..... |
| 92 | aCatarqui..... | Kingston..... | 2d Wednesday | Thos. W. Gibson | Robt. Hendry, Jr |
| 93 | aNorthern Light... | Kincardine... | 1st Wednesday | J. H. Scott..... | R. D. Hall..... |
| 94 | aSt. Mark's..... | Port Stanley.. | 2d Tuesday.... | L. J. Mothersill | Alex. Taylor.... |
| 96 | aCorinthian..... | Barrie..... | 1st Thursday.. | Fred. N. Warren | Alfred Wilkes.... |
| 97 | aSharon..... | Sharon..... | Tu.on or b.f.m | J. T. Power..... | P.F.Pearson,M.D |
| 98 | True Blue..... | Albion..... | F. on or b.f.m | F. N. Leavens... | Robt. Roberts.. |
| 99 | aTuscan..... | Newmarket.. | 2d Wednesday | T. H. Lloyd..... | C. H. Lloyd..... |
| 100 | Valley..... | Dundas..... | M. on or b.f.m | C. Hetherington | D. McMill n.... |
| 101 | aCorinthian..... | Peterboro'... | W. on or b.f.m | D. H. Burritt.... | M. W. Brown.... |
| 103 | aMaple Leaf..... | S Catharines | Last Thursday | Jas. E. Merriman | Fred. R. Parnell |
| 104 | St. John's..... | Norwich..... | W. on or a.f.m | J. D. Hogarth... | I. L. Farrington |
| 105 | aSt. Mark's..... | N. Falls S'th. | Tu.on or b.f.m | H. F. Garner.... | J. C. Hull..... |
| 106 | aBurford..... | Burford..... | W. on or b.f.m | J. s. Pooley.... | C. H. Pratt..... |
| 107 | St. Paul's..... | Lambeth..... | W. on or b.f.m | Thos. Montelli r | H. Poole..... |
| 108 | Blenheim..... | Princecton... | F. on or a.f.m | F. J. Daniel.... | W. A. Taylor.... |
| 109 | aAlbion..... | Har'ownsmith | F. on or b.f.m | A.Lockbart,M.D. | James Cooke.... |
| 110 | aCentral..... | Prescott..... | 1st Tuesday.. | F. P. Drummond | H. H. Wells.... |
| 113 | aWilson..... | Waterford... | W. on or b.f.m | Russell Bow.by.. | E. G. Christie.... |
| 114 | aHope..... | Port Hope.... | 1st Friday.... | E. J. W. Burton | T. H. Bell..... |
| 115 | aIvy..... | Beamsville.. | Tu on or b.f.m | Thos. Wood..... | W. A. Simpson... |
| 116 | aCassia..... | Theford..... | M. on or b.f.m | John D. Neilson | George Watts... |
| 118 | Union..... | Schomberg... | M. on or b.f.m | S. Leatherland... | W. J. Brereton.. |
| 119 | aMaple Leaf..... | Bath..... | M. before f.m | Jos. Morgan.... | F. W. Armstrong |
| 120 | Warren..... | Fingal..... | Tu.on or b.f.m | Geo. E. Norman | Frank R. Else.. |
| 121 | aDoric..... | Brautford... | 3rd Friday.... | D. J. Waterous | W. A. Robinson |
| 122 | aRenfrew..... | Renfrew..... | 1st Monday.... | T. R. Brownlee.. | H. W. Airt..... |
| 123 | aThe Belleville... | Belleville.... | 1st Thursday.. | A. E. Lewis..... | W. H. Adams.... |
| 125 | aCornwall..... | Cornwall..... | 1st Tuesday.. | G. R. Phillips... | A. G. Watson.... |
| 126 | aGolden Rule.... | Cam'bellford | Fr.on or b.f.m | G. Redford, Jr.. | Geo. L. Dickens |
| 127 | aFrank..... | Frankford.... | M. before f. m | David Barrager | Chester Clark.. |
| 128 | aPembroke..... | Pembroke.... | 1st Thursday.. | Rev. G.D Ba nes | John R. Moffat.. |
| 129 | The Rising Sun... | Aurora..... | 1st Friday.... | Jas. McClosk... | D. A. Radcliffe.. |
| 131 | aSt. Lawrence.... | Souham'ton | Tu. on or a.f.m | F. H. Lee..... | C. R. Vanstone.. |
| 133 | aLebanon Forest.. | Exeter..... | M. on or b.f.m | Wm. H. Levett.. | M. Eacrett..... |
| 135 | aSt. Clair..... | Milton..... | Th.on or b.f.m | M. McCr mmon | R. Coats..... |
| 136 | Richardson..... | Stouffville... | W. on or b.f.m | W. J. Starke.... | James Hand..... |
| 137 | aPythagoras..... | Meaford..... | F. nearest f.m | S. Carson..... | J. Patterson.... |
| 139 | Lebanon..... | Oshawa..... | 2nd Tuesday.. | P. H. Punshon | Jas. McCaw..... |
| 140 | aMalahide..... | Aylmer..... | W. on or b.f.m | Orlando Baker.. | C. F. Burdick... |
| 141 | aTudor..... | Mitchell..... | Tu.on or b.f.m | C. M. French.... | Geo. S. Goodeve |
| 142 | aExcelsior..... | Morrisburg.. | F. on or b.f.m | W. K. Farlinger | G. H. S. Kennedy |
| 143 | aFriends Brothers | Iro'puois.... | Wednes' b.f.m | Adam Harkness | Jas. W. Tindale |
| 144 | aTecumseh..... | Stratford.... | 3rd Friday.... | J. A. Caslake... | A. E. Neil..... |
| 145 | aJ. B. Hall..... | Millbrook... | 2d Thursday.. | Wm. T. Wood.... | R. J. Doak..... |
| 146 | aPrince of Wales.. | Newburgh.... | Wednes' b.f.m | D. A. Nesbitt... | G. A. Aylesworth |
| 147 | aMississippi..... | Almoute..... | 1st Friday.... | W. C. Pollock... | Robt. Pollock... |
| 148 | aCivil Service.... | Ottawa..... | 2d Tuesday.. | E. L. Learoyd.. | W. J. Beatty.... |
| 149 | aErie..... | Port Dover.. | M. on or b.f.m | S. L. Butler.... | J. Varey..... |
| 151 | aThe Grand River | Berlin..... | 2d Tuesday.... | D. J. Minechin.. | H. Zapfe..... |
| 153 | aBurns..... | Wyoming.... | Th.on or b.f.m | John Hunter... | J. M. Wilson.... |
| 154 | aIrving..... | Lucan..... | Th.on or b.f.m | W. Ellwood.... | Jas. Irwin..... |
| 155 | aPeterboro'..... | Peterboro'... | 1st Friday.... | A. C. Herridge.. | R. W. McFadden |
| 156 | aYork..... | N. Toronto... | 3rd Friday.... | J. J. Madden... | A. H. Dixon.... |
| 157 | Simpson..... | Newboro'... | Tu.on or b.f.m | W. G. Dargavel.. | Josh H. Butler.. |
| 158 | aAlexandra..... | Oil Springs... | Thursd'ya.f.m | Hugh A. Beaton | W. S. Duggn.... |
| 159 | aGoodwood..... | Richmond... | W. on or b.f.m | Clarke Craig... | H. Reilly..... |
| 161 | aPercy..... | Warkworth.. | Wednes' b.f.m | D. Ewing..... | J.W. Baker..... |
| 162 | Forest..... | Wroxeter..... | M. on or b.f.m | John Barnard... | Thos. Gibson, Jr |

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LAST RETRNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCE AT 31ST MAY, 1898.—Continued.

| No. of Lodges | Initia'd | Passed. | Raised. | Joined. | With-drawn. | Deaths. | S. N. P. D. | S. U. M. C. | Ex-pelled. | Re-stored. | Total M'bs | Last ctus | Ledger. | | Paid Grand Lodge. |
|---------------|----------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|---------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|---------|---------|-------------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | Dr. Bal | Cr. Bal | |
| 83 | 10 | 6 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 2 | | | | 1 | 75 | Dec. '97 | | | 42 50 |
| 84 | 3 | 1 | 2 | | | | 1 | 1 | | | 65 | June '98 | | | 40 00 |
| 85 | | | | | 3 | 3 | | | | | 60 | Dec. '97 | | | 32 00 |
| 86 | 10 | 6 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 2 | | | | 9 | 153 | June '98 | | | 20 25 |
| 87 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | 4 | | | | 30 | " | | | 19 50 |
| 88 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 79 | " | | | 53 00 |
| 90 | 5 | 3 | 3 | | 1 | 3 | 4 | | | 1 | 108 | " | | 6 00 | 67 50 |
| 91 | 3 | 2 | 2 | | 1 | 1 | | | | 4 | 79 | " | | | 39 25 |
| 92 | 10 | 10 | 8 | 1 | | 1 | 6 | | | | 108 | Dec. '97 | | | 1 50 |
| 93 | 4 | 4 | 4 | | 3 | 1 | 6 | | | | 88 | June '98 | | | 58 50 |
| 94 | | | | | | | | | | | 25 | June '97 | 58 75 | | |
| 96 | 8 | 7 | 10 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | | | | 131 | June '98 | | 3 00 | 93 00 |
| 97 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | | | 1 | 47 | " | 3 00 | | 35 75 |
| 98 | 3 | 3 | 3 | | 1 | | 4 | | | 1 | 45 | June '97 | | | 31 00 |
| 99 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | | | | | 43 | Dec. '97 | 51 00 | | 3 00 |
| 100 | 6 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 4 | | | | | 1 | 70 | June '98 | | | 54 25 |
| 101 | 4 | 4 | 4 | | 1 | | | 3 | | | 73 | Dec. '97 | | | 54 75 |
| 103 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 4 | | 2 | | | | 2 | 108 | June '98 | | | 64 25 |
| 104 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | | | 2 | 76 | " | | | 48 50 |
| 105 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 1 | | | | 68 | " | | 2 00 | 76 50 |
| 106 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | | | 1 | | | 1 | 71 | " | | | 43 50 |
| 107 | 3 | 3 | 3 | | 1 | 1 | | | | | 52 | " | | 2 00 | 35 50 |
| 108 | | | | | | 1 | | | | | 25 | " | | | 15 00 |
| 109 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 51 | " | | | 39 75 |
| 110 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 1 | 2 | | 3 | | | | 91 | " | | | 65 00 |
| 113 | 10 | 7 | 7 | 2 | 3 | | | | | 2 | 57 | " | | | 57 00 |
| 114 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | | | | | | 75 | " | | | 68 25 |
| 115 | 3 | 6 | 7 | | | | | | | | 73 | " | | | 52 25 |
| 116 | | | | 2 | 1 | | | | | | 34 | " | 1 00 | | 17 25 |
| 118 | | 1 | | | | | | | | | 23 | " | | | 14 00 |
| 119 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | | | | 26 | " | | | 15 50 |
| 120 | | | | | | | | | | | 31 | " | | | 19 50 |
| 121 | 11 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 3 | | 4 | | | 1 | 149 | " | | | 93 00 |
| 122 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | | | | 100 | June '98 | | | 80 25 |
| 123 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 8 | | 3 | | | | 136 | " | | | 90 75 |
| 125 | 9 | 9 | 8 | 1 | | | 1 | | | 2 | 70 | " | | | 39 75 |
| 126 | 2 | 2 | 2 | | 4 | | 1 | | | | 42 | " | | | 27 00 |
| 127 | 4 | 4 | 4 | | 5 | 1 | 2 | | | | 70 | " | 17 00 | | 103 25 |
| 128 | 11 | 11 | 11 | 1 | 2 | 1 | | | | | 126 | " | | | 102 00 |
| 129 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | | | | | 52 | " | 27 00 | | 50 50 |
| 131 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 8 | | | | 38 | " | 8 50 | | 35 75 |
| 133 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 3 | | | | 73 | " | | | 41 00 |
| 135 | 9 | 7 | 4 | | 6 | 1 | 5 | | | 2 | 53 | June '94 | 14 00 | | 20 00 |
| 136 | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | | 4 | | | | 34 | June '98 | | | 28 75 |
| 137 | 3 | 2 | 2 | | | 1 | | | | 1 | 44 | Dec. '97 | | | 58 50 |
| 139 | | | | | 1 | | | | | | 65 | " | | | 35 75 |
| 140 | 7 | 5 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 1 | | | | 86 | June '98 | | | 68 00 |
| 141 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 43 | Dec. '97 | | | 37 00 |
| 142 | | | | | | | | | | | 80 | June '96 | 2 00 | | 3 00 |
| 143 | | | 1 | | | | | | | | 65 | Dec. '97 | | | 1 00 |
| 144 | 3 | 4 | 6 | | 1 | 2 | | | | | 116 | June '98 | | | 89 50 |
| 145 | 1 | | | | 3 | | 6 | | | | 45 | " | 40 10 | | 22 15 |
| 146 | 1 | | | | 1 | 1 | | | | 1 | 42 | " | | | 17 00 |
| 147 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | | 2 | | | | 65 | " | | | 36 50 |
| 148 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 5 | | | | | | 75 | Dec. '97 | | | 47 00 |
| 149 | | | | 1 | 2 | | | | | | 50 | " | | | 26 75 |
| 151 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 | | | | 1 | 90 | June '98 | | | 66 00 |
| 153 | 8 | 6 | 5 | 1 | | 2 | 3 | | | | 66 | " | 22 00 | | 51 00 |
| 154 | | | | | | | | | | | 45 | Dec. '96 | | | |
| 155 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 1 | | 2 | 1 | | 1 | 114 | June '98 | | | 64 00 |
| 156 | 4 | 4 | 4 | | 2 | | 9 | | | | 96 | " | 25 00 | | 68 00 |
| 157 | 3 | 2 | 3 | | | 1 | | | | | 59 | " | | | 41 50 |
| 158 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 1 | 49 | " | | | 39 00 |
| 159 | 8 | 8 | 7 | | | 2 | | | | | 64 | " | | | 15 00 |
| 161 | 3 | 3 | 3 | | 2 | | 13 | | | | 52 | " | 52 00 | | 32 25 |
| 162 | | | | | 3 | | | | | 3 | 26 | " | | | 6 5 |

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1898, AND

| No of Lodge. | Lodge. | Where Held. | Night of Meeting | W. Master. | Secretary. |
|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 164 | aStar in the East | Wellington... | Tu.on or b.f.m | C.S.Cunningham | J. D. Wilson |
| 165 | aBurlington | Burlington... | W. on or b.f.m | W. Fleetham | B. S. Hicks..... |
| 166 | aWentworth | Stoney Creek | M. on or b.f.m | J. W. Jardine | R. H. Dewar |
| 168 | aMerritt | Welland | M. on or b.f.m | L. H. Pursal | Geo. Wells |
| 169 | aMacnab | Pt. Colborne | Tu.on or b.f.m | Rob. Gilnes | John Cook |
| 170 | aBritannia | Seaforth | 1st Monday... | Wm. Arnet | J. O. Rose |
| 171 | aPrince of Wales | Lawrence St n | F. on or a.f.m | Arch. McCallum | S. H. Weldon..... |
| 172 | aAyr | Ayr | Tu.on or b.f.m | Jas. Cassie | A. J. Reid..... |
| 174 | aWalsingham | Port Rowan... | Th.on or b.f.m | J. E. Biddle | Jas. Ryan |
| 177 | The Builders' | Ottawa | 2d Friday..... | S. B. Sinclair..... | H. H. Cairns ... |
| 178 | aPlattsville | Plattsville | F. on or b.f.m | L. W. Craig | W. R. Henderson |
| 180 | aSpeed | Guelph | 1st Tuesday... | R. M. Lindsay... | Wm. Parker |
| 181 | aOriental | Port Burwell | Tu.on or b.f.m | M. G. Burwell... | D. M. Chute |
| 184 | aOld Light | Lucknow..... | Th.on or b.f.m | John D. Nichol... | Harry Days |
| 185 | aEnniskillen | York | M. on or b.f.m | Rev C. Scudamore | M. Runchey |
| 186 | aPlantagenet | Plantagenet. | M. on or b.f.m | F. L. Switzer, M.D | W. A. Chamberl'n |
| 190 | Belmont | Belmont | F. on or b.f.m | W. C. Moore | John Boyd..... |
| 192 | aOrillia | Orillia | F. on or b.f.m | W. H. Tudhope... | J. W. Ellis |
| 193 | aScotland | Scotland..... | M. on or b.f.m | W. C. Hooker | A. Dawson |
| 194 | aPetrolia | Petrolia | 2d Wednesday | A. K. Sturgeon... | M. Smith..... |
| 195 | aThe Tuscan | London | 1st Monday... | W. A. Bluthner | R. B. Hungerford |
| 196 | aMadawaska | Arnprior | 2d Monday... | R. B. McCreary | H. W. W. Gardner |
| 197 | aSaugeen | Walkerton | 2d Tuesday... | Henry Clark..... | C. F. Harris |
| 200 | St. Alban's. | Mount Forest | F. on or b.f.m | Jas. A. Young | R. O. Kilgour..... |
| 201 | aLeeds | Gananoque... | Tu.on or b.f.m | J. A. Johnston | W. Y. Boyd..... |
| 203 | Irvine | Eiora | 3rd Friday... | W. A. Petrie | Thos. Godfrey... |
| 205 | New Dominion | N. Hamburg | M. on or a.f.m | S. G. Holley | A. Fraser |
| 207 | aLancaster | Lancaster | W. on or b.f.m | A. D. Cameron | W. N. McGillis... |
| 209a | St. John's | London | 1st Friday | J. D. Balfour, M.D. | T. A. Rowat |
| 209 | Evergreen | Lanark | 1st Tuesday... | John W. Stewart | J. D. McInnis..... |
| 212 | aElysian | Gar'n Island | 1st Monday... | Thos. La pin | R. Raymond |
| 215 | Lake | Ameliaburg | M. on or b.f.m | Wesley Sager..... | Geo. E. Roblin |
| 216 | aHarris | Orangeville... | Tu.on or b.f.m | C. M. Smith..... | D. McPherson... |
| 217 | aFrederick | Delbi | M. on or b.f.m | A. E. Steete | A. W. Crysler... |
| 218 | aStevenson | Toronto | 2d Monday... | Geo. Wilson | J. L. Little |
| 219 | aCredit | Georgetown... | F. on or b.f.m | H. Holdroyd | T. J. Wheeler |
| 220 | aZerathia | Uxbridge | M. on or b.f.m | W. W. Johnston | John G. Vicars... |
| 221 | aMountain | Thorold | W. on or b.f.m | E. F. Fraser | W. T. Fish..... |
| 222 | aMarmora | Marmora | Tues'dy b.f.m | Thos. Mawson | D. Mitchell |
| 223 | aNorwood | Norwood | Tu.on or b.f.m | Wm. Hutchinson | W.H. Stephenson |
| 224 | aZurich | Hensall | Th.on or b.f.m | Geo. T. McKay... | Jas. Bouthron .. |
| 225 | aBernard | Listowel | F. on or b.f.m | Fred. Rogers..... | J. J. Foster..... |
| 228 | aPrince Arthur | Odessa | M. on or a.f.m | A. A. Caton | Robt. Bennett .. |
| 229 | aIonic | Brampton... | 3rd Tuesday... | W. J. Peaker | A. Morton |
| 230 | Kerr | Barric | 4th Monday... | H. E. Jory | W. K. Foncar..... |
| 231 | Lodge of Fidelity | Ottawa | 3rd Thursday | Jas. A. Devitt | C. J. Pearson..... |
| 232 | aCameron | Dutton | W. on or b.f.m | Jas. Balkwell..... | Jas. Pool |
| 233 | aDoric | Park Hill | Tu.on or b.f.m | L. N. Phippen... | D. N. McLeod |
| 234 | aBeaver | Clarksburg... | Tu.on or b.f.m | Hy Pedwell | J. H. Dickinson... |
| 235 | Aldworth | Paisley | F. on or b.f.m | F. E. Sheppard... | W. R. Keyes..... |
| 236 | aManitoba | Cookstown... | Tu.on or a.f.m | W. McGowan | W. J. Phillips... |
| 237 | Vienna | Vienna | F. on or b.f.m | Benj. Br en..... | Geo. Thornton... |
| 238 | Havelock | Watford | Tu.on or b.f.m | Wilfred B. Race | David Watt |
| 239 | Tweed | Tweed | F. on or b.f.m | P. T. Bowlby..... | C. W. Craig |
| 242 | aMacey | Mallorytown | M. on or b.f.m | J. C. Diekey | R. W. Tennant... |
| 243 | aSt. George | St. George... | Th.on or b.f.m | F. J. Patten | W. Horing |
| 245 | aTecumseh | Thamesville. | Tu.on or b.f.m | Ed. Worth | C. H. Watts |
| 247 | aAshlar | Toronto | 4th Tuesday... | H. R. O'Hara..... | A. Y. Scott |
| 249 | aCaledonian | Midland | W. on or b.f.m | H. R. McGill | H. S. Ruby |
| 250 | Thistle | Embro | Th.on or b.f.m | Geo. A. Munroe | Wm. Stewart..... |
| 253 | aMinden | Kingston | 1st Tuesday... | John Nicolle | Thos D Minnes |
| 254 | Clifton | Niag. Falls... | 1st Thursday... | W. P. Lyon | Alex. Gray |
| 255 | Sydenham | Dresden | 2d Thursday.. | Frank Laird | J. I. Wiley |
| 256 | aFarran's Point | Farran's Pt... | W. on or b.f.m | A. E. Fetterlev... | R. H. Hanes |
| 257 | aGalt | Galt | 1st Tuesday... | T. C. Pe. rce | J. W. Gilliland... |

LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31ST MAY, 1898.—Continued.

| No. of Lodge. | Initial'd | Pas.-d. | Raised. | Joined. | With-drawn. | Deaths | S. N. P. D. | S. U. M. C. | Exp'd | Ret'd. | Total M'emb's | Last Returns | Ledger. | | Paid Grand Lodge. |
|---------------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|-------------|-------------|-------|--------|---------------|--------------|----------|----------|-------------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | Dr. Bal. | Cr. Bal. | |
| 164 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | .. | 3 | .. | .. | .. | 49 | Dec.'97 | ..... | ..... | \$ 38 00 |
| 165 | 4 | 5 | 4 | .. | 1 | .. | 5 | .. | .. | .. | 50 | June'98 | \$ 30 00 | ..... | 33 50 |
| 166 | 5 | 4 | 3 | .. | 2 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 74 | Dec.'97 | ..... | ..... | 49 50 |
| 168 | .. | 1 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 62 | June'98 | ..... | ..... | 31 50 |
| 169 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | 3 | .. | .. | .. | 49 | Dec.'97 | ..... | ..... | 27 00 |
| 170 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 81 | June'98 | ..... | ..... | 48 25 |
| 171 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 36 | .. | ..... | 27 00 | 25 00 |
| 172 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 54 | June'97 | 1 00 | ..... | 13 00 |
| 174 | 7 | 6 | 6 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 50 | June'98 | ..... | ..... | 44 50 |
| 177 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 115 | .. | ..... | ..... | 64 50 |
| 178 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 43 | .. | ..... | ..... | 26 75 |
| 180 | 5 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 2 | .. | .. | .. | 77 | .. | ..... | ..... | 55 75 |
| 181 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 25 | .. | ..... | ..... | 12 50 |
| 184 | 3 | 2 | 2 | .. | .. | 1 | 2 | .. | .. | .. | 42 | .. | ..... | ..... | 30 25 |
| 185 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 30 | .. | ..... | 50 | 11 00 |
| 186 | 6 | 5 | 3 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 27 | .. | ..... | ..... | 8 25 |
| 190 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 20 | .. | ..... | ..... | 19 25 |
| 192 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 11 | .. | .. | .. | 73 | .. | ..... | 7 75 | 15 00 |
| 193 | 5 | 4 | 7 | .. | 3 | .. | .. | 1 | .. | 1 | 62 | .. | ..... | ..... | 65 00 |
| 194 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | .. | 2 | .. | .. | .. | 89 | .. | ..... | ..... | 49 25 |
| 195 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 76 | .. | ..... | ..... | 82 50 |
| 196 | 4 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 77 | .. | 4 00 | ..... | 62 00 |
| 197 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 42 | .. | ..... | ..... | 24 50 |
| 200 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 2 | 2 | .. | .. | .. | 40 | .. | 24 50 | ..... | 25 75 |
| 201 | 4 | 7 | 7 | 2 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 94 | Dec.'97 | ..... | ..... | 101 25 |
| 203 | .. | 1 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 41 | June'98 | ..... | ..... | 24 00 |
| 205 | 2 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 2 | .. | .. | .. | 35 | .. | ..... | 2 00 | 37 00 |
| 207 | 12 | 7 | 7 | 1 | 3 | .. | 2 | .. | 2 | .. | 44 | .. | ..... | ..... | 81 50 |
| 209 | 1 | 4 | 3 | .. | .. | 5 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 182 | Dec.'97 | 1 00 | ..... | 57 25 |
| 209 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 33 | .. | ..... | ..... | 16 50 |
| 512 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 31 | June'98 | ..... | ..... | 17 25 |
| 215 | 1 | 1 | 2 | .. | 3 | .. | 7 | .. | .. | .. | 50 | .. | ..... | ..... | 41 50 |
| 216 | 8 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 5 | .. | 2 | 101 | Dec.'97 | ..... | ..... | 65 00 | |
| 217 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 2 | .. | 1 | .. | 1 | 42 | June'98 | ..... | 1 00 | 28 75 | |
| 218 | 12 | 11 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 7 | .. | 3 | 162 | .. | ..... | ..... | 116 00 | |
| 219 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 56 | .. | ..... | ..... | 108 75 |
| 220 | 3 | 3 | 4 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 67 | .. | ..... | ..... | 47 75 |
| 221 | 5 | 4 | 4 | .. | 2 | 1 | 3 | .. | .. | .. | 59 | .. | ..... | ..... | 39 75 |
| 222 | 8 | 8 | 9 | 1 | .. | 1 | 2 | .. | .. | .. | 53 | .. | ..... | 2 00 | 36 00 |
| 223 | 6 | 4 | 4 | .. | 2 | .. | 3 | .. | .. | .. | 15 | .. | 2 00 | ..... | 25 75 |
| 224 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | .. | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 38 | .. | ..... | ..... | 21 75 |
| 225 | 7 | 7 | 7 | .. | 2 | 1 | .. | .. | 1 | 80 | .. | ..... | ..... | 58 50 | |
| 228 | 1 | 1 | 1 | .. | 4 | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 34 | .. | ..... | ..... | 31 25 | |
| 229 | 5 | 5 | 5 | .. | 2 | .. | 3 | .. | .. | 1 | 72 | .. | ..... | ..... | 38 25 |
| 230 | 7 | 7 | 11 | .. | 1 | 1 | 8 | .. | .. | .. | 87 | .. | ..... | ..... | 52 00 |
| 231 | 4 | 4 | 6 | .. | 1 | 2 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 82 | .. | ..... | 6 00 | 69 75 |
| 232 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 39 | Dec.'96 | ..... | ..... | 3 00 |
| 233 | 5 | 5 | 8 | .. | 3 | .. | 3 | .. | 1 | 40 | June'98 | 6 00 | ..... | 19 00 | |
| 234 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | 1 | 50 | Dec.'97 | 13 50 | ..... | 31 00 | |
| 235 | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | .. | 37 | June'97 | ..... | ..... | 21 50 |
| 236 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 1 | .. | 1 | 25 | Dec.'97 | ..... | 6 00 | 43 25 | |
| 237 | 3 | 3 | 2 | .. | 2 | 1 | 1 | .. | .. | 38 | June'98 | ..... | ..... | 23 50 | |
| 238 | 2 | 2 | 2 | .. | 2 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 64 | June'97 | ..... | ..... | ..... |  |
| 239 | 1 | 2 | 2 | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 52 | June'98 | 27 50 | ..... | ..... |  |
| 242 | .. | .. | .. | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | .. | 3 | 24 | .. | ..... | ..... | 43 00 | |
| 243 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 1 | .. | .. | 1 | 41 | .. | ..... | ..... | 32 25 | |
| 245 | 2 | 2 | 1 | .. | .. | .. | 2 | .. | .. | 53 | .. | ..... | ..... | 21 25 | |
| 247 | 12 | 14 | 7 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 1 | .. | 1 | 137 | .. | 1 00 | ..... | 156 25 | |
| 249 | 3 | 3 | 2 | .. | .. | .. | 3 | .. | .. | 55 | Dec.'97 | ..... | ..... | 55 50 | |
| 250 | 1 | 1 | .. | 3 | .. | 1 | .. | .. | 1 | 27 | June'98 | ..... | ..... | 16 50 | |
| 253 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 5 | .. | .. | 72 | .. | ..... | 2 00 | 59 50 | |
| 254 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | .. | .. | 89 | .. | ..... | ..... | 50 75 | |
| 255 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | .. | .. | 1 | .. | .. | 53 | Dec.'97 | ..... | ..... | 40 | |
| 256 | 5 | 5 | 5 | .. | 2 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 73 | June'98 | ..... | ..... | 37 | |
| 257 | 4 | 2 | 3 | .. | 4 | 1 | 10 | .. | .. | 70 | .. | ..... | ..... | 32 | |

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1898, AND

| No. of Lodge. | Lodge. | Where Held. | Night of Meeting. | W. Master. | Secretary. |
|---------------|--------------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 255 | Guelph | Guelph | 2d Tuesday | Fred. W. Darby | T. H. Pratt |
| 260 | Washington | Petrolia | 1st Wednesday | M. Munro | J. M. Hattie |
| 261 | Oak Branch | Innerkip | Th. on or b.f.m | W. H. Nesbit | Geo. Campbell |
| 262 | Harriston | Harriston | 2d Monday | John Prain | J. Hucks |
| 263 | Forest | Forest | W. on or b.f.m | E. J. Flavin | P. W. Campbell |
| 264 | Chaudiere | Ottawa | 4th Tuesday | D. J. McCuaig | Jas. Peterkin |
| 265 | Patterson | Thornhill | Th. on or b.f.m | J. C. Steele | G. A. Langstaff |
| 266 | Northern Light | Snyder | Tu. on or b.f.m | A. J. F. Sullivan | W. A. Doner |
| 267 | Parthenon | Cbatham | 1st Wednesday | G. W. Sulman | Chas. R. Cape |
| 268 | Verulam | Bobcaygeon | F. on or b.f.m | T. VanNorman | L. M. Ross |
| 270 | Brougham Union | Brougham | W. on or a.f.m | W. G. Barnes | D. R. Beaton |
| 270 | Cedar | Oshawa | 4th Tuesday | F. L. Henry | L. K. Murton |
| 271 | Wellington | Erin | 2d Wednesday | J. B. Jackson | C. Overland, Jr. |
| 272 | Seymour | Ancaster | W. on or b.f.m | T. A. Walker | Geo. Moore |
| 274 | Kent | Blenheim | M. on or b.f.m | Rev. R. J. Freeborn | J. Crookshank |
| 276 | Teeswater | Teeswater | F. on or b.f.m | D. Stewart | J. Farquharson |
| 277 | Seymour | P. Dalhousie | W. on or b.f.m | Robt. Walton | Alph. Kelley |
| 278 | Mystic | Roslin | | | |
| 279 | New Hope | Hespler | W. on or b.f.m | R. G. Scott | C. M. Schultz |
| 282 | Lorne | Glencoe | Th. on or b.f.m | W. J. French | Edwin Gale |
| 283 | Eureka | Belleville | W. a. f. m. | F. E. O'Flynn | W. J. Diamond |
| 284 | St. John's | Brussels | Tu. on or b.f.m | Andrew Consley | J. A. Creighton |
| 285 | Seven Star | Alliston | W. on or b.f.m | W. S. Ellis | H. M. Wright |
| 286 | Wingham | Wingham | 1st Tuesday | Paul. Powell | J. A. Moron |
| 287 | Shuniah | Port Arthur | 1st Tuesday | J. W. Morgan | John Ritchie |
| 289 | Doric | Lobo | Th. on or b.f.m | R. S. Tuekey | P. L. Graham, MD |
| 290 | Leamington | Leamington | Tu. on or b.f.m | Wm. Irwin | A. T. Bole |
| 291 | Dufferin | W. Flamboro | Th. on or b.f.m | Fred. C. Trapp | Alfred Jones |
| 292 | Robertson | King | M. on or b.f.m | J. W. Crossley | Chas. Patterson |
| 293 | T. Roy. Sol. Moth. | Jerusal'm Pa | 1st Wednesday | W. H. Kayat | Kalil Saadeh, MD |
| 294 | Moore | Courtright | Th. on or b.f.m | John S ockade | D. M. Johnston |
| 295 | Conestogo | Drayton | Tu. on or a.f.m | John Gordon | J. G. Coram |
| 296 | Temple | St. Catharin's | Last Wednes. | Chas. O. Beam | A. J. McGregor |
| 297 | Preston | Preston | F. on or b.f.m | David B. Millar | Jos. Beltzer |
| 299 | Victoria | Centreville | Th. on or b.f.m | A. B. Carscallen | T. V. Anderson |
| 300 | Mount Olivet | Thorndale | Tu. on or b.f.m | R. E. Ardiel | M. N. Wright |
| 302 | St. David's | St. Thomas | 3rd Thursday | L. D. Mell | Fred. S. Lewis |
| 303 | Blyth | Blyth | Tu. on or a.f.m | J. M. Ross | Jas. M. Hamilton |
| 304 | Minerva | Stroud | Tu. on or b.f.m | Wm. Lattimer | C. E. Chantler |
| 305 | Amber | Weston | W. on or b.f.m | A. J. Pr ichard | Jos. T. Franks |
| 306 | Durham | Durham | Tu. on or b.f.m | Thos. Brown | Geo. Russell |
| 307 | Arkona | Akrona | Th. on or b.f.m | A. M. Thoman | Frank Hooper |
| 309 | Morning Star | Smith's Hill | W. on or b.f.m | John Wilson | Wm. Young |
| 311 | Blackwood | Woodbridge | F. on or b.f.m | Jos. J. Watson | Jo n P. Bunt |
| 312 | Pnyx | Wallaceburg | M. on or b.f.m | W. W. Hay | E. E. Parker |
| 313 | Clementi | Lakefield | 1st Tuesday | Robt. J. Munro | h. Q. Dench |
| 314 | Blair | Palmerston | F. after f. m. | Wm. Robertson | H. Hyndman, Jr. |
| 315 | Clifford | Clifford | 3rd Monday | R. v. W. H. Harvey | A. S. Allan |
| 316 | Doric | Toronto | 3d Thursday | J. H. Price | H. E. Griffith |
| 318 | Wilmot | Baden | F. on or a.f.m | F. Holwell | Alf. Kaufman |
| 319 | Hiram | Hagersville | Th. on or b.f.m | Jas. McNicol | F. B. Geddes |
| 320 | Chesterville | Chesterville | M. on or b.f.m | W. A. Brown, M.D. | J. G. Gillespie |
| 321 | Walker | Acton West | M. on or b.f.m | J. F. Wren | W. R. Kenney |
| 322 | North Star | Owen Sound | W. a. f. m. | T. McGill | D. W. Morrison |
| 323 | Alvin-ston | Alvin-ston | W. on or b.f.m | A. McKinnon, MD | F. B. Cummer |
| 324 | Temple | Hamilton | 2d Tuesday | J. A. Zimmerman | Thos. P dler |
| 325 | Orono | Orono | Th. on or b.f.m | J. S. Robertson | Wm. Armstrong |
| 326 | Zetland | Toronto | 4th Friday | W. M. Angus | W. C. Eddis |
| 327 | The Hammond | War'sville | 3rd Tuesday | E. Aitchison | D. Johnson |
| 328 | Ionic | Napier | F. on or b.f.m | W. L. Toobill | W. H. Sutherland |
| 329 | King Solomon | Jarvis | F. on or b.f.m | Jas. Noble | David Hill |
| 330 | Corinthian | London East | 1st Tuesday | F. E. Davis | H. C. Simpson |
| 331 | Fordwich | Fordwich | Th. on or b.f.m | Fred. Douaghy | Rich. McCallum |
| 332 | Stratford | Stratford | 2nd Monday | H. J. Powell | Fred. J. Scarff |
| 333 | Prince Arthur | Flesherton | F. on or b.f.m | Roger McGill | W. J. Ballamy |
| 334 | Prince Arthur | Arthur | Tu. on or b.f.m | M. Wilkins | Alex. Graham |

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LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31ST MAY, 1898.—Continued.

| No. of Lodge. | Initia'd | Passed. | Raised. | Joined. | With-drawn | Deaths | S. N. P. D. | S. U. M. C. | Exp'd | Rest'd. | Total Mem'rs | Last Returns | Ledger. | | Paid Grand Lodge. |
|---------------|----------|---------|---------|---------|------------|--------|-------------|-------------|-------|---------|--------------|--------------|----------|----------|-------------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | Dr. Bal. | Cr. Bal. | |
| 258 | 6 | 4 | 2 | ..... | 1 | 2 | 3 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 75 | June '98 | ..... | ..... | \$56 50 |
| 260 | 3 | 2 | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 4 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 71 | " | ..... | ..... | 43 00 |
| 261 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 20 | " | ..... | ..... | 10 50 |
| 262 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 1 | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 50 | " | ..... | ..... | 39 75 |
| 263 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 63 | " | ..... | ..... | 43 50 |
| 264 | 3 | 2 | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 101 | Dec. '97 | ..... | 1 00 | 84 00 |
| 265 | 4 | 3 | 2 | ..... | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 26 | June '98 | 6 00 | ..... | 11 00 |
| 266 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | ..... | 37 | June '97 | ..... | ..... | 40 50 |
| 267 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 3 | ..... | 5 | ..... | 4 | ..... | 60 | June '98 | ..... | ..... | 46 25 |
| 268 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 | ..... | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 30 | Dec. '97 | ..... | ..... | 16 00 |
| 269 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 38 | June '98 | 21 75 | ..... | 10 75 |
| 270 | 6 | 6 | 5 | ..... | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 64 | Dec. '97 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| 271 | 7 | 5 | 4 | 1 | ..... | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | 1 | 48 | June '98 | ..... | ..... | 34 00 |
| 272 | 9 | 10 | 8 | ..... | 3 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 50 | " | ..... | ..... | 37 25 |
| 274 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 3 | 1 | 1 | 13 | 1 | ..... | 1 | 56 | " | 53 25 | ..... | ..... |
| 276 | 1 | 1 | 1 | ..... | 3 | ..... | 6 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 20 | " | ..... | ..... | 9 00 |
| 277 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 34 | Dec. '97 | ..... | ..... | 17 00 |
| 278 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | " | ..... | ..... | 9 75 |
| 279 | ..... | 1 | 1 | ..... | 4 | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 50 | June '98 | ..... | ..... | 33 50 |
| 282 | 2 | 3 | 4 | ..... | 1 | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 42 | " | ..... | ..... | 36 50 |
| 283 | 4 | 6 | 4 | 1 | ..... | 1 | 9 | ..... | 1 | ..... | 62 | " | ..... | 4 00 | 49 25 |
| 284 | 6 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 58 | " | ..... | ..... | 42 75 |
| 285 | 2 | 2 | 3 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 31 | " | ..... | ..... | 21 50 |
| 286 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | ..... | ..... | 1 | ..... | 49 | " | ..... | ..... | 34 75 |
| 287 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 2 | 4 | ..... | 2 | ..... | 93 | " | 1 50 | ..... | 56 00 |
| 289 | 2 | 3 | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 48 | Dec. '97 | ..... | ..... | 29 25 |
| 290 | 13 | 13 | 10 | 1 | 2 | 3 | ..... | ..... | 2 | ..... | 98 | June '98 | ..... | 4 00 | 90 25 |
| 291 | 3 | 3 | 4 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 46 | " | ..... | ..... | 11 25 |
| 292 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 42 | " | ..... | ..... | 25 00 |
| 293 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 1 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 21 | June '97 | ..... | 5 00 | 17 25 |
| 294 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 1 | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | 1 | ..... | 32 | June '98 | ..... | ..... | 23 75 |
| 295 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 26 | " | 40 25 | ..... | ..... |
| 296 | 2 | ..... | ..... | 2 | 3 | 1 | ..... | ..... | 1 | ..... | 58 | " | ..... | ..... | 33 50 |
| 297 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 21 | " | ..... | ..... | 11 75 |
| 299 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 3 | ..... | ..... | 1 | 40 | " | 10 75 | ..... | 25 25 |
| 300 | 2 | 2 | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 26 | " | 6 25 | ..... | 18 50 |
| 302 | 7 | 7 | 5 | ..... | ..... | 1 | 7 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 93 | " | 28 25 | ..... | 69 00 |
| 303 | 3 | 3 | 3 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 51 | " | ..... | 2 00 | 43 00 |
| 304 | 1 | ..... | 1 | ..... | 1 | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 18 | " | ..... | ..... | 11 25 |
| 305 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | ..... | ..... | 2 | ..... | 43 | " | ..... | ..... | 28 00 |
| 306 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 4 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 33 | " | ..... | ..... | 18 00 |
| 307 | 5 | 5 | 5 | ..... | 2 | 1 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 44 | " | ..... | ..... | 28 00 |
| 309 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 51 | June '97 | ..... | ..... | 68 75 |
| 311 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 37 | Dec. '97 | ..... | ..... | 37 50 |
| 312 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 7 | ..... | ..... | 1 | 82 | June '98 | ..... | ..... | 56 00 |
| 313 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 36 | " | ..... | ..... | 19 00 |
| 314 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 3 | 1 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 48 | " | ..... | ..... | 24 75 |
| 315 | ..... | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 28 | " | ..... | ..... | 25 00 |
| 316 | 7 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 12 | ..... | 2 | ..... | 134 | Dec. '97 | ..... | ..... | 78 75 |
| 318 | 3 | 3 | 1 | ..... | 1 | 1 | ..... | ..... | 1 | ..... | 33 | June '98 | ..... | ..... | 13 75 |
| 319 | 4 | 4 | 3 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 34 | " | ..... | ..... | 19 75 |
| 320 | 16 | 11 | 8 | ..... | 1 | 1 | ..... | ..... | 1 | ..... | 88 | " | ..... | ..... | 66 25 |
| 321 | 5 | 2 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 26 | " | ..... | ..... | 14 75 |
| 322 | 3 | 2 | ..... | ..... | 3 | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 72 | " | ..... | ..... | 28 50 |
| 323 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 5 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 46 | " | 1 00 | ..... | 24 00 |
| 324 | 14 | 14 | 20 | ..... | 4 | 2 | 6 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 235 | " | ..... | ..... | 168 25 |
| 325 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 32 | " | ..... | ..... | 17 00 |
| 326 | 27 | 27 | 26 | 5 | 5 | 3 | ..... | ..... | 1 | ..... | 270 | " | ..... | ..... | 180 75 |
| 327 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 6 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 23 | " | ..... | ..... | 18 00 |
| 328 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 23 | " | ..... | ..... | 18 75 |
| 329 | ..... | 2 | 4 | ..... | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 44 | " | ..... | ..... | 34 50 |
| 330 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 10 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 82 | " | ..... | 20 00 | 80 00 |
| 331 | 2 | 2 | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 26 | " | 13 00 | ..... | 6 00 |
| 332 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | 138 | " | ..... | ..... | 90 25 |
| 333 | 3 | 1 | 4 | ..... | 1 | ..... | 3 | ..... | 2 | ..... | 34 | " | ..... | ..... | 43 25 |
| 334 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 2 | ..... | ..... | 5 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 32 | " | ..... | ..... | 65 50 |

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1898, AND

| No. of Lodge. | Lodge. | Where Held. | Night of Meeting. | W. Master. | Secretary. |
|---------------|--------------------|-----------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 336 | aHighgate | Highgate .. | F. on or b.f.m | J. H. Rattenmuer | Wm. Oldfield..... |
| 337 | aMyrtle | Pt. Robinson | Tu.on or b.f.m | C. B. Bennett ... | Thos. Sowersby .. |
| 338 | aDufferin | Weilandport | Tu.on or b.f.m | W. E. Shafley..... | D. C. Holmes..... |
| 339 | aOrient | Toronto..... | 1st Tuesday... | J. W. Thompson... | D. J. Kelly |
| 341 | aBruce..... | Tiverton..... | Tu.on or b.f.m | D. A. McLaren... | W. J. Chambers... |
| 343 | aGeorgina..... | Toronto..... | 1st Saturday... | A. B. Cordingley... | G. O. Merson..... |
| 344 | aMerrill..... | Dorch'st rS'n | Th.on or b.f.m | H. W. Partlow ... | W. J. Shaw..... |
| 345 | aNilestown..... | Nilestown... | Tu.on or b.f.m | J. W. Wallace..... | J. McDougall..... |
| 346 | aThe Occident..... | Toronto..... | 3d Wednesday... | E. J. B. Duncan... | John Lillie..... |
| 347 | aMercer..... | Fergus..... | 1st Friday..... | Jas. A. Goodall... | James Phillip..... |
| 348 | aGeorgian..... | Pen'tang'sh'e | 1st Thursday... | C. A. Nettleton... | J. J. Buckley..... |
| 352 | aGranite..... | Parry Sound. | W. on or b.f.m | Jas. Ca'der..... | D. Macfarlane... |
| 354 | aBrock..... | Cannington... | W. b.f.m..... | Nelson McLeo t. | Joseph A. Kift... |
| 356 | aRiver Park..... | Streetsville... | Tu.on or b.f.m | John H. Dracass... | Wm. Taylor..... |
| 357 | aWaterdown..... | Millgrove..... | Tu.on or b.f.m | R. Flatt..... | B. G. Ryckman... |
| 358 | aDeleware Valley. | Delaware .. | F. on or b.f.m | John W. Stillson. | R.R.Montgomery |
| 359 | aVittoria..... | Vittoria..... | F. on or b.f.m | R. S. Stalker..... | C. A. Duncan..... |
| 360 | aMuskoka..... | Braacebridge. | Tu.on or b.f.m | A. A. Mahaffy... | Francis P. Warne |
| 361. | aWaverley..... | Gue.ph..... | 4th Monday... | J. H. Naisini h... | H. E. Jackson ... |
| 362 | aMaple Leaf..... | Tara..... | M. on or b.f.m | J. T. Hall..... | E. A. Gerolamy... |
| 364 | aDufferin..... | Melbourne... | W. on or b.f.m | A. Carruthers... | John Cooper..... |
| 367 | aSt. George..... | Toronto..... | 1st Friday..... | John J. Main..... | W. J. Guy..... |
| 368 | aSalem..... | Brockville .. | 2nd Monday... | W. R. Scaee..... | E. A. Geiger..... |
| 369 | aMimico..... | Lambton M. | Tu.on or b.f.m | D. M. Anderson... | Fred. Tyers..... |
| 370 | aHarmony..... | Delta..... | W. on or b.f.m | D. A. Coon..... | L. N. Phelps..... |
| 371 | aPrince of Wales.. | Ottawa..... | 4th Friday..... | John J. Mulligan | W. L. Reid..... |
| 372 | aPalmer..... | Bridgeburg... | Tu.on or a.f.m | J. A. North..... | J. G. Watts..... |
| 37 | aCoonestone..... | Welland..... | 1st Thur day... | David Jones..... | Chas. Hearn..... |
| 374 | aKeene..... | Keene..... | Th.on or b.f.m | A. C. McGregor .. | J. M. Shaw, M.D. |
| 375 | aLorne..... | Omenece..... | 1st Thursday... | Chas. Corneil... | Hugh Murray..... |
| 376 | aUnity..... | Huntsville... | 2d Wednesday | J. E. Fisher..... | E. J. Ecclestone |
| 377 | aLorne..... | Snelburne... | 1st Friday..... | John W. Douglas... | Chas. Mason..... |
| 378 | aKing Solomon's.. | London West | 2n l Friday... | Jos. E. Weber..... | W. Nicholl..... |
| 379 | aMiddlesex..... | Bryanston... | W.on orb f.m. | D. McPherson... | Wm. Smibert..... |
| 380 | aUnion..... | London..... | 2nd Monday... | Stephen Grant... | Jos. Ward..... |
| 382 | aDoric..... | Hamilton..... | 3rd Monday... | W. F. Montague... | C.V. Emory, M.D. |
| 383 | aHenderson..... | W. Winch'ter | 1st Tuesday... | S. S. Reveler..... | G. Johnson..... |
| 384 | aAlpha..... | Toronto..... | 1st Thursday... | A. T. Middleton... | E. J. Voss..... |
| 385 | aSpry..... | Beeton..... | W.on or a f m | T. F. Chapin..... | J. R. Croft..... |
| 386 | aMcColl..... | West Lorne. | Tu on orb f m | D.F. Webster,MD | John F. Taylor... |
| 387 | aLansdowne..... | Lansdowne... | Th.on orb f.m | C. J. Young..... | D.J.Hollingsw'th |
| 388 | aHenderson..... | Iderton..... | M.on orb f m | Max Kohl..... | J s. H Robson... |
| 389 | aCrystal Fountain | X Augusta.. | W. on orb f.m | W. H. Waddell... | G. W. Chapman... |
| 390 | aFlorence..... | Florence..... | Th.on orb f.m | W. J. Bodkiu..... | J. D. McMillan... |
| 391 | aHoward..... | Ridgetown... | M. on orb f m | J. C. Lock..... | W. H. Ellsworth |
| 392 | aHuron..... | Camlachie... | W. on orb f.m | Thos. Patton..... | A. Trusler..... |
| 393 | aForest..... | Ches'ey..... | 1st Tuesday... | J. M. Stewart..... | W. R. Birely..... |
| 394 | aKing Solomon | Thamesford. | W. on orb f.m | J. T. Lloyd..... | W. W. Day..... |
| 395 | aParvain..... | Comber..... | Th.on orb f.m | Thos. Warren... | P. A. Flaherty ... |
| 396 | aCedar..... | Warton..... | Tu on orb f m | A. A. McKenzie... | A. W. Baines..... |
| 397 | aLeopold..... | Bridgen..... | W. on orb f m | Fos. er Johnson... | W. J. Ward..... |
| 398 | aVictoria..... | Kirkfield..... | W on orb f m | Ed. Mosgrove... | Dan.C.McDongal |
| 399 | aMoffat..... | Harrietsville | W on orb f m | Thos. McKee..... | J. A. O'Neil..... |
| 400 | aOakville..... | Oakville..... | Tu. on orb f m | W. H. Morden... | C. A. Bradbury... |
| 401 | aCraig..... | Deseronto... | 1st Tuesday... | Robt. Miller..... | L. H. Bennett... |
| 402 | aCentral..... | Essex Centre | W on orb f.m | A. Ra'nes..... | A. O. Stimers... |
| 403 | aWindsor..... | Windsor..... | 1st Friday... | John H. Rodd... | Jas. C. Guillot... |
| 404 | aLorne..... | Tamworth... | F. on or a f.m | Chas. R. Jones... | Jas. Aylesworth. |
| 405 | aMattawa..... | Mattawa..... | 1st Tuesday... | D. A. Dunlap... | A. N. Grasswell.. |
| 406 | aThe Spry..... | Fenel'n Falls | W on orb f m | H.H.Graham MD | RevM.Farncomb |
| 408 | aMurray..... | Beaverton... | Tu. on orb f m | H. Logan..... | Alex. Dobson... |
| 409 | aGolden Rule..... | Gravenhurst | M. on orb f.m | Geo. H. Homer... | J. C. Davidson... |
| 410 | aZeta..... | Toronto..... | 4th Friday... | J. D. H. Browne | R. H. Christie... |
| 411 | aRodney..... | Rodney..... | Th.on orb f m | D. H. Ford..... | Edwin A. Hugill |
| 412 | aKeystone..... | S. St. Marie.. | Tu.on orb f.m | M. McFadden... | R. J. Gibson..... |
| 413 | aNaphtali..... | Tilb'y Cent'e | Tu.on orb f.m | W. J. Robertson | W. A. Hutton... |

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LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31ST MAY, 1898.—Continued.

| No. of Lodge. | Initia'd | Passed | Raised | Joined | With-drawn | Deaths | S. N. P. D. | S. U. M. C. | Exp'd | Ret'd | Total Mumb's | Last Ret'ns | Ledger. | | Paid Grand Lodge |
|---------------|----------|--------|--------|--------|------------|--------|-------------|-------------|-------|-------|--------------|-------------|----------|----------|------------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | Dr. Bal. | Cr. Bal. | |
| 336 | 7 | 5 | 3 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 54 | June '98 | \$ 30 00 | ..... | \$ 38 00 |
| 337 | 1 | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 26 | Dec. '97 | 5 00 | ..... | 25 00 |
| 338 | 3 | 3 | 3 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 22 | June '98 | 24 75 | ..... | ..... |
| 339 | 18 | 20 | 22 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 7 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 173 | ..... | ..... | 4 00 | 267 75 |
| 341 | 1 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 46 | Dec. '97 | ..... | ..... | 25 50 |
| 343 | 30 | 26 | 24 | ..... | 3 | 1 | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 146 | " | ..... | 2 00 | 233 00 |
| 344 | 3 | 4 | 3 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 98 | " | ..... | 2 00 | 25 00 |
| 345 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 27 | June '98 | 1 00 | ..... | 15 75 |
| 346 | 18 | 15 | 10 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 6 | ..... | ..... | 9 | 154 | " | 11 00 | ..... | 76 00 |
| 347 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 44 | Dec. '95 | ..... | 12 00 | 14 00 |
| 348 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 3 | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 22 | Dec. '97 | ..... | ..... | 21 50 |
| 352 | 2 | 1 | ..... | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 66 | June '98 | 1 00 | ..... | 40 00 |
| 351 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | ..... | ..... | 4 | ..... | ..... | 2 | 49 | ..... | ..... | 1 00 | 48 50 |
| 356 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 5 | ..... | ..... | 3 | 35 | " | 1 00 | ..... | 22 00 |
| 357 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 35 | June '97 | ..... | ..... | 48 25 |
| 358 | 3 | 2 | 1 | ..... | ..... | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 39 | Jun '98 | 22 50 | ..... | 22 50 |
| 359 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 36 | " | ..... | ..... | 23 50 |
| 360 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 | ..... | 7 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 38 | " | ..... | ..... | 24 50 |
| 361 | 7 | 6 | 7 | ..... | 3 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 92 | " | ..... | ..... | 48 25 |
| 362 | 1 | 1 | 3 | ..... | 1 | ..... | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 40 | " | ..... | ..... | 36 25 |
| 364 | 8 | 6 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 32 | " | 86 00 | ..... | ..... |
| 367 | 17 | 15 | 14 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | ..... | ..... | 3 | 130 | " | ..... | ..... | 83 50 |
| 368 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 5 | ..... | ..... | 1 | 97 | " | ..... | ..... | 69 00 |
| 369 | 1 | 2 | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 47 | Dec. '97 | 26 50 | ..... | ..... |
| 370 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 66 | June '97 | ..... | ..... | 69 00 |
| 371 | 4 | 4 | 4 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | 1 | 68 | June '98 | ..... | ..... | 46 75 |
| 372 | 2 | 2 | 3 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 45 | " | ..... | ..... | 31 25 |
| 373 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 5 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 29 | Dec. '97 | 8 75 | ..... | 8 75 |
| 374 | 1 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 29 | June '98 | ..... | ..... | 21 00 |
| 375 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 38 | June '97 | 27 00 | ..... | 25 00 |
| 376 | 6 | 6 | 10 | ..... | 2 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 70 | June '98 | ..... | ..... | 49 25 |
| 377 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 49 | " | ..... | ..... | 61 75 |
| 378 | 3 | 4 | 4 | ..... | 2 | 2 | 3 | ..... | ..... | 8 | 66 | " | ..... | ..... | 47 00 |
| 379 | 1 | 1 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 25 | Dec. '97 | ..... | ..... | 16 50 |
| 380 | 8 | 10 | 12 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 4 | ..... | ..... | 5 | 102 | " | ..... | ..... | 81 00 |
| 382 | 9 | 9 | 10 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 3 | ..... | ..... | 1 | 153 | June '98 | ..... | ..... | 102 00 |
| 383 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 3 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 42 | " | ..... | ..... | 28 25 |
| 384 | 9 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 5 | ..... | 3 | 1 | ..... | ..... | 167 | " | ..... | ..... | 120 50 |
| 385 | 1 | ..... | 1 | ..... | 1 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 | 30 | " | ..... | ..... | 23 50 |
| 386 | 8 | 7 | 7 | ..... | 3 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 39 | Dec. '97 | 23 50 | ..... | 35 25 |
| 387 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 25 | June '96 | ..... | ..... | 1 00 |
| 388 | 1 | 1 | ..... | ..... | 1 | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 30 | June '98 | ..... | ..... | 18 25 |
| 389 | 1 | 1 | 1 | ..... | 4 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 40 | " | ..... | ..... | 37 25 |
| 390 | 1 | 1 | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 18 | " | ..... | ..... | 10 00 |
| 391 | 5 | 5 | 5 | ..... | 3 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 61 | " | ..... | ..... | 32 00 |
| 392 | 2 | 2 | 2 | ..... | 2 | ..... | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 48 | " | ..... | ..... | 31 75 |
| 393 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 30 | " | ..... | ..... | 17 25 |
| 394 | 5 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 57 | " | ..... | ..... | 49 75 |
| 395 | ..... | 1 | 1 | ..... | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 38 | " | ..... | ..... | 25 75 |
| 396 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 3 | 2 | ..... | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 55 | Dec. '97 | ..... | ..... | 49 25 |
| 397 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 40 | " | ..... | ..... | 26 50 |
| 398 | 5 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | 4 | 35 | June '98 | ..... | ..... | 18 75 |
| 399 | 3 | 3 | 3 | ..... | ..... | 1 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 18 | " | 2 00 | ..... | 8 75 |
| 400 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 81 | June '97 | ..... | ..... | 53 00 |
| 401 | 10 | 10 | 7 | ..... | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 53 | June '98 | ..... | ..... | 70 25 |
| 402 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 | 4 | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 47 | Dec. '97 | ..... | ..... | 26 00 |
| 403 | 6 | 7 | 5 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 6 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 102 | June '98 | ..... | ..... | 79 25 |
| 404 | 4 | 4 | 4 | ..... | 5 | ..... | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 24 | " | ..... | ..... | 33 75 |
| 405 | 1 | ..... | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 80 | " | ..... | ..... | 50 00 |
| 406 | 7 | 8 | 8 | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 44 | " | ..... | ..... | 36 25 |
| 408 | 4 | 4 | 1 | ..... | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 34 | " | ..... | ..... | 23 50 |
| 409 | 1 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 2 | ..... | 7 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 30 | " | ..... | ..... | 19 00 |
| 410 | 19 | 17 | 11 | 10 | 1 | ..... | 4 | ..... | ..... | 1 | 86 | " | 16 00 | ..... | 75 00 |
| 411 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 1 | 35 | Dec. '97 | ..... | ..... | ..... |
| 412 | 5 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 3 | ..... | ..... | ..... | 3 | 79 | June '98 | ..... | ..... | 45 00 |
| 413 | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | ..... | 70 | June '97 | 10 00 | ..... | 75 50 |

RETURNS OF SUBORDINATE LODGES AS AT 24TH JUNE, 1898, AND

| No. of Lodge. | Lodge. | Where Held. | Night of Meeting. | W. Master. | Secretary. |
|---------------|----------------------|----------------|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| 414 | Pegunonga..... | Rat Portage.. | 1st Wednesd'y | J. A. McCrossan | J. E. Bird..... |
| 415 | aFort William..... | Fort William | W. on or b.f.m | Jas. H. Perry..... | Wm. Western ... |
| 416 | Lyn..... | Lyn..... | W. on or b.f.m | Thos. Pattern ... | W. C. Lavery ... |
| 417 | aKeewatin..... | Keewat'n Mts | 1st Friday..... | J. H. Robinson... | A. J. Holmes..... |
| 418 | aMaxville..... | Maxville..... | 2nd Tuesday... | Geo. W. Shepherd | A. W. Grant |
| 419 | aBismarek..... | Pt. Edward... | 2nd Monday... | E. Everett | B. F. George..... |
| 420 | aNipissing..... | North Bay... | 2nd Thursday | W. G. Liddle..... | R. McKnight |
| 421 | aScott..... | Grand Valley | W. on or b. f. m | J. A. V. Preston... | W. McIntyre |
| 422 | aStar of the East .. | Bothwell..... | W. on or b. f. m | J. G. Macpherson | C. E. Bayley..... |
| 423 | aStrong..... | Sundridge... | 3d Wednesday | B. Wickett | W. Dobson..... |
| 424 | aDoric..... | Pickering..... | Th. on or b. f. m | Wm. Gornley ... | Geo. Parker |
| 425 | aSt. Clair..... | Sombra..... | Tu. on or b. f. m | T. C. Cowan | G. W. Smith..... |
| 426 | aStanley..... | W. Tor Junc | 1st Tuesday.... | J. A. Bull..... | J. W. Wansbrugh |
| 427 | aNickel..... | Sudbury..... | 1st Wednesday | J. R. Gordon | Gus Harwood..... |
| 428 | Fidelity..... | Port Perry... | F. on or b. f. m | R. G. Baird..... | Jas. A. Underhill |
| 429 | aPort Elgin..... | Port Elgin.... | Th. on or b. f. m | W. H. Marrs | A. H. Ridout |
| 430 | aAcacia..... | East Toronto | 3rd Monday... | R. A. Hunter..... | R. D. Adams |
| 431 | Moravian..... | Eden Grove.. | F. on or a. f. m | W. C. Morrison MD | J. T. Chittick..... |
| 432 | aHanover..... | Hanover..... | F. on or b. f. m | John Mitchell ... | John Sutherland |
| 433 | aBonnechere | Eganville.... | 2nd Monday... | Albert Sparling. | Ed. Weber |
| 434 | aAlgonquin..... | Emsdale..... | Tu. on ora. f. m | H. L. Barber, M.D. | W. L. B. Hamlin |
| 435 | aHavelock..... | Havelock..... | F. on or b. f. m | Elias Williams... | A. Kinewasser ... |
| 436 | aBurus..... | Hepworth.... | T. on or a. f. m. | F. Campbell, M.D | E. W. Geddes..... |
| 437 | aTuscan..... | Sarnia..... | 3d Wednesday | F. J. Winlow..... | W. White..... |
| 438 | Harmony..... | Toronto..... | 4th Monday... | W. Kennedy | W. H. Shaw |
| 439 | aAlexandria..... | Alexandria... | 1st Wednesday | Ed. H. Tiffany ... | D. E. McMillen ... |
| 440 | aArcadia..... | Minden..... | F. on or b. f. m | E. B. Munn..... | S. A. Lawrence... |
| 441 | Westport..... | Westport..... | 1st Friday..... | Jas. G. Gorrell... | H. F. Metcalfe ... |
| 442 | Dymont..... | Thessalon.... | Th on or b. f. m | Wm. L. Nichols | W. C. Foster |
| 443 | Powassen..... | Powassen..... | 2nd Friday.... | Wm. Carmichael | John S. Scarlett |
| 444 | Nitets..... | Creemore ... | T. on ora. f. m. | Joseph Hood..... | A. H. Watson..... |

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LAST RETURNS PRIOR TO THE LEDGER BALANCES AT 31ST MAY, 1898.—Continued.

| No. of Lodge. | Initia'd | Passed. | Raised. | Joined. | With-drawn. | Deaths | S. N. P. D. | S. U. M. C. | Exp'd | Rest'd. | Total M' m' b's | Last Returns | Ledger. | | Paid Grand Lodge. |
|---------------|----------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|--------|-------------|-------------|-------|---------|-----------------|--------------|----------|-----------|-------------------|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | Dr. Bal. | Cr. Bal. | |
| 414 | 3 | 4 | 5 | | | | 8 | | | | 69 | June '98 | 61 50 | | 6 00 |
| 415 | 8 | 9 | 8 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 3 | 63 | Dec. '97 | 4 00 | | 49 50 |
| 416 | | | | | | | | | | | 24 | June '98 | | | 14 25 |
| 417 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | 5 | 1 | | | | | 47 | " | | | 32 25 |
| 418 | 2 | 2 | 3 | | 3 | | | | | | 45 | " | | | 26 75 |
| 419 | 1 | | | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 | | | | 68 | " | | | 41 25 |
| 420 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 6 | | | | | | 85 | " | | 2 00 | 25 75 |
| 421 | 7 | 7 | 10 | | | | | | | | 47 | " | 1 00 | | 35 75 |
| 422 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 2 | 3 | | | | | | 32 | " | | | 15 00 |
| 423 | 5 | 5 | 5 | | 5 | | | | | | 45 | " | | 2 00 | 92 00 |
| 424 | | | | | | | 1 | | | | 28 | Dec. '97 | | | 16 25 |
| 425 | 1 | 2 | 2 | | | 1 | 3 | | | | 37 | June '98 | | | 22 25 |
| 426 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 5 | | 1 | | | 1 | 1 0 | 92 | " | | | 88 00 |
| 427 | | | | | | | | | | | 44 | June '96 | | | |
| 428 | 7 | 4 | 5 | 3 | | | | | | | 30 | June '98 | | | 29 50 |
| 429 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | 70 | Dec. '97 | | | 18 00 |
| 430 | 7 | 6 | 3 | 1 | 6 | | 4 | | | | 34 | June '98 | | | 43 50 |
| 431 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 20 | " | | | 37 00 |
| 432 | 6 | 6 | 7 | 3 | 4 | | | | | | 34 | Dec. '97 | | | 40 50 |
| 433 | 5 | 3 | 3 | | 3 | | | | | | 34 | June '98 | | | 32 75 |
| 434 | 4 | 4 | 2 | | 1 | | | | | | 30 | " | | | 23 75 |
| 435 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 4 | | | | | | 48 | " | | | 37 00 |
| 436 | 2 | 2 | 1 | | | 1 | | | | | 25 | Dec. '97 | 7 50 | | 6 75 |
| 437 | 8 | 8 | 6 | | 2 | 2 | | | | | 44 | June '98 | | | 39 50 |
| 438 | 14 | 13 | 11 | 6 | 1 | | | 1 | | | 107 | Dec. '97 | | | 59 75 |
| 439 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | 37 | June '98 | 6 00 | | 58 50 |
| 440 | 4 | 3 | 2 | | | | | | | | 19 | " | 1 00 | | 37 00 |
| 441 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | | | | | 28 | " | 10 00 | | |
| 442 | 10 | 9 | 8 | | | 1 | 1 | | | | 34 | " | | | 31 25 |
| 443 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 3 | 1 | | | | | | 22 | " | | | 2 50 |
| 444 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 1 | | | | | | | 21 | " | | | 23 00 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | Interst | General | Fund... | 3208 17 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | " | Asy'um | " | 437 00 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | P. M. | Certifi- | cat s.... | 11 00 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | Dispen- | ations | | 49 00 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | Miscel- | aneous | | 67 00 |
| | 1513 | 1358 | 1282 | 334 | 574 | 254 | 630 | 7 | 203 | 23906 | | | 1267 85 | 136 25 | 19827 57 |

LIST OF LODGES—BY DISTRICTS.

ERIE DISTRICT, NO. 1. (22.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. R. Hillier, M. D., Leamington.

| | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|----------------|
| No. 31, Thistle..... | Amherstburg | No. 327, The Hammond.. | Wardsville |
| " 41, St. George..... | Kingsville | " 336, Highgate..... | Highgate |
| " 46, Wellington..... | Chatham | " 386, McColl..... | West Lorne |
| " 47, Great Western..... | Windsor | " 390, Florence..... | Florence |
| " 215, Tecumseh..... | Thamesville | " 391, Howard..... | Ridgetown |
| " 255, Sydenham..... | Dresden | " 395, Parvain..... | Comber |
| " 257, Parthenon..... | Chatham | " 402, Central..... | Essex Centre |
| " 274, Kent..... | Blenheim | " 403, Windsor..... | Windsor |
| " 282, Lorne..... | Giencoe | " 411, Rodney..... | Rodney |
| " 290, Leamington..... | Leamington | " 413, Naphtali..... | Tilbury Centre |
| " 312, Pnyx..... | Wallaceburg | " 422, Star of the East..... | Bothwell |

ST. CLAIR DISTRICT, NO. 2. (20.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. Archibald Weir, Sarnia.

| | | | |
|------------------------|-------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| No. 56, Victoria..... | Sarnia | No. 294, Moore..... | Courtright |
| " 81, St. John's..... | Mt. Brydges | " 307, Arkona..... | Arkona |
| " 83, Beaver..... | Strathroy | " 323, Alvinston..... | Alvinston |
| " 116, Cassia..... | Thedford | " 328, Ionic..... | Napier |
| " 153, Burns..... | Wyoming | " 364, Dufferin..... | Melbourne |
| " 158, Alexandra..... | Oil Springs | " 392, Huron..... | Camlachie |
| " 194, Petrolia..... | Petrolia | " 397, Leopold..... | Bridgen |
| " 238, Havelock..... | Watford | " 419, Bismarck..... | Point Edward |
| " 260, Washington..... | Petrolia | " 425, St. Clair..... | Sombra |
| " 261, Forest..... | Forest | " 437, Tuscan..... | Sarnia |

LONDON DISTRICT, NO. 3. (26.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. Sam'l Dubber, St. Thomas.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| No. 29, St. John's..... | London | No. 289, Doric..... | Lobo |
| " 42, St. George's..... | London | " 300, Mt. Olivet..... | Thorndale |
| " 44, St. Thomas..... | St. Thomas | " 302, St. David's..... | St. Thomas |
| " 64, Kilwinning..... | London | " 330, Corinthian..... | London East |
| " 91, St. Mark's..... | Port Stanley | " 344, Merrill..... | Dorchester Station |
| " 107, St. Paul's..... | Lambeth | " 345, Nilestown..... | Nilestown |
| " 120, Warren..... | Fingal | " 358, Delaware Valley..... | Delaware |
| " 140, Malahide..... | Aylmer | " 378, King Solomon's..... | London W |
| " 171, Prince of Wales..... | Lawrence | " 379, Middlesex..... | Bryanston |
| " 190, Belmont..... | Belmont | " 380, Union..... | London |
| " 195, Tuscan..... | London | " 388, Henderson..... | Iderton |
| " 209, St. John's..... | London | " 394, King Solomon..... | Thamesford |
| " 232, Cameroa..... | Dutton | " 399, Moffat..... | Harrietsville |

SOUTH HURON DISTRICT, NO. 4. (15.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. W. J. Mooney, Stratford.

| | | | |
|----------------------------|------------|----------------------------|--------------|
| No. 33, Maitland..... | Goderich | No. 205, New Domini'n..... | New Hamb'g |
| " 73, St. James'..... | St. Mary's | " 224, Zurich..... | Hensall |
| " 84, Clinton..... | Clinton | " 233, Doric..... | Park Hill |
| " 133, Lebanon Forest..... | Exeter | " 303, Blyth..... | Blyth |
| " 141, Tudor..... | Mitchell | " 309, Morning Star..... | Smith's Hill |
| " 144, Tecumseh..... | Stratford | " 318, Wilnot..... | Baden |
| " 154, Irving..... | Lucan | " 332, Stratford..... | Stratford |
| " 170, Britannia..... | Seaforth | | |

NORTH HURON DISTRICT, NO. 5. (19.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. Wm. Irwin, Listowel.

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|------------------------|------------|
| No. 93, Northern Light..... | Kincardine | No. 331, Fordwich..... | Fordwich |
| " 131, St. Lawrence..... | Southampton | " 341, Bruce..... | Tiverton |
| " 162, Forest..... | Wroxeter | " 362, Maple Leaf..... | Tara |
| " 184, Old Light..... | Lucknow | " 393, Forest..... | Chesley |
| " 197, Saugeen..... | Walkerton | " 396, Cedar..... | Warton |
| " 225, Bernard..... | Listowel | " 429, Port Elgin..... | Port Elgin |
| " 235, Aldworth..... | Paisley | " 431, Moravian..... | Eden Grove |
| " 276, Teeswater..... | Teeswater | " 432, Hanover..... | Hanover |
| " 284, St. John's..... | Brussels | " 436, Burns..... | Hepworth |
| " 286, Wingham..... | Wingham | | |

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WILSON DISTRICT, NO. 6. (21.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. C. L. Merritt, Scotland.

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| No. 10, Norfolk.....Simcoe | No. 149, Erie.....Port Dover |
| " 37, King Hiram.....Ingersoll | " 174, Walsingham.....Port Rowan |
| " 43, King Solomon.....Woodstock | " 178, Flatville.....Plattsville |
| " 68, St. John's.....Ingersoll | " 181, Oriental.....Port Burwell |
| " 76, Oxford.....Woodstock | " 193, Scotland.....Scotland |
| " 78, King Hiram.....Tilsenburg | " 217, Frederick.....Delhi |
| " 82, St. John's.....Paris | " 237, Vienna.....Vienna |
| " 104, St. John's.....Norwich | " 250, Thistle.....Embrow |
| " 106, Burford.....Burford | " 261, Oak Branch.....Innerkip |
| " 108, Blenheim.....Princeton | " 359, Vittoria.....Vittoria |
| " 113, Wilson.....Waterford | |

WELLINGTON DISTRICT, NO. 7. (21.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. R. J. Lockhart, M. D., Hespeler.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| No. 72, Alma.....Galt | No. 279, New Hope.....Hespeler |
| " 151, The Grand River.....Berlin | " 295, Conestogo.....Drayton |
| " 172, Ayr.....Ayr | " 297, Preston.....Preston |
| " 180, Speed.....Guelph | " 306, Durham.....Durham |
| " 200, St. Alban's.....Mount Forest | " 314, Blair.....Palmerston |
| " 203, Irvine.....Elora | " 315, Clifford.....Clifford |
| " 216, Harris.....Orangeville | " 334, Prince Arthur.....Arthur |
| " 257, Galt.....Galt | " 347, Mercer.....Fergus |
| " 258, Guelph.....Guelph | " 361, Waverley.....Guelph |
| " 262, Harriston.....Harriston | " 421, Scott.....Grand Valley |
| " 271, Wellington.....Erin | |

HAMILTON DISTRICT, NO. 8. (21.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. A. T. Freed, Hamilton.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| No. 6, The Barton.....Hamilton | No. 166, Wentworth.....Stoney Creek |
| " 27, Strict Observance.....Hamilton | " 219, Credit.....Georgetown |
| " 40, St. John's.....Hamilton | " 243, St. George.....St. George |
| " 45, Brant.....Brantford | " 272, Seymour.....Ancaster |
| " 57, Harmony.....Binbrook | " 291, Dufferin.....West Flamboro' |
| " 61, Acacia.....Hamilton | " 321, Walker.....Acton West |
| " 62, St. Andrew's.....Caledonia | " 324, Temple.....Hamilton |
| " 100, Valley.....Dundas | " 357, Waterdown.....Millgrove |
| " 121, Doric.....Brantford | " 382, Doric.....Hamilton |
| " 135, St. Clair.....Milton | " 400, Oakville.....Oakville |
| " 165, Burlington.....Burlington | |

GEORGIAN DISTRICT, NO. 9. (19.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. J. C. Morgan, Barrie.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| No. 79, Simcoe.....Bradford | No. 266, Northern Light.....Stayner |
| " 88, St. George's.....Owen Sound | " 285, Seven Star.....Alliston |
| " 90, Manito.....Collingwood | " 304, Minerva.....Stroud |
| " 96, Corinthian.....Barrie | " 322, North Star.....Owen Sound |
| " 137, Pythagoras.....Meaford | " 333, Prince Arthur.....Flesherton |
| " 192, Orillia.....Orillia | " 348, Georgian.....Penetanguishene |
| " 230, Kerr.....Barrie | " 377, Lorne.....Shelburne |
| " 234, Beaver.....Clarksburg | " 385, Spry.....Beeton |
| " 236, Manitoba.....Cookstown | " U. D. Nitetis.....Creemore |
| " 249, Caledonian.....Midland | |

NIAGARA DISTRICT, NO. 10. (21.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. John A. Hoshal, Cayuga.

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| No. 2, Niagara.....Niagara | No. 221, Mountain.....Thorold |
| " 7, Union.....Grimsby | " 254, Clifton.....Niagara |
| " 15, St. George's.....St. Catharines | " 277, Seymour.....Port Dalhousie |
| " 32, Amity.....Dunnville | " 296, Temple.....St. Catharines |
| " 35, St. John's.....Cayuga | " 319, Hiram.....Hagersville |
| " 103, Maple Leaf.....St. Catharines | " 329, King Solomon.....Jarvis |
| " 105, St. Mark's.....Drummondville | " 337, Myrtle.....Port Robinson |
| " 115, Ivy.....Beamsville | " 338, Dufferin.....Wellandport |
| " 168, Merritt.....Welland | " 372, Palmer.....Victoria |
| " 169, Macnab.....Port Colborne | " 373, Copestone.....Welland |
| " 185, Enniskillen.....York | |

GRAND LODGE OF CANADA.

TORONTO WEST DISTRICT NO. II. (20.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. Curran McK. Morrison, Toronto.

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| No. 22, King Solomon's.....Toronto | No. 292, Robertson.....Nobleton |
| " 54, Vaughan.....Maple | " 305, Humber.....Weston |
| " 65, Rehoboam.....Toronto | " 311, Blackwood.....Woodbridge |
| " 86, Wilson.....Toronto | " 326, Zetland.....Toronto |
| " 98, True Blue.....Albion | " 346, Occident.....Toronto |
| " 118, Union.....Schomberg | " 356, River Park.....Streetsville |
| " 156, York.....North Toronto | " 369, Mimico.....Lambton Mills |
| " 229, Ionic.....Brampton | " 384, Alpha.....Toronto |
| " 247, Ashlar.....Toronto | " 426, Stanley.....Toronto Junction |
| " 265, Patterson.....Thornhill | " 438, Harmony.....Toronto |

TORONTO EAST DISTRICT NO. 11a. (20.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. James Glanville, Toronto.

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| No. 16, St. Andrew's.....Toronto | No. 220, Zeredatha.....Uxbridge |
| " 23, Richmond.....Richmond Hill | " 269, Brougham Union.....Brougham |
| " 25, Ionic.....Toronto | " 316, Doric.....Toronto |
| " 75, St. John's.....Toronto | " 339, Orient.....Toronto |
| " 87, Markham Union.....Markham | " 343, Georgina.....Toronto |
| " 97, Sharon.....Sharon | " 354, Brock.....Cannington |
| " 99, Tuscan.....Newmarket | " 367, St. George.....Toronto |
| " 129, The Rising Sun.....Aurora | " 410, Zeta.....Toronto |
| " 136, Richardson.....Stouffville | " 424, Doric.....Pickering |
| " 218, Stevenson.....Toronto | " 430, Acacia.....East Toronto |

ONTARIO DISTRICT, NO. 12. (24.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. James Evans, Port Hope.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| No. 26, Ontario.....Port Hope | No. 268, Verulam.....Bobcaygeon |
| " 30, Composite.....Whitby | " 270, Cedar.....Oshawa |
| " 31, Jerusalem.....Bowmanville | " 313, Clementi.....Lakefield |
| " 39, Mount Zion.....Brooklin | " 325, Orono.....Orono |
| " 66, Durham.....Newcastle | " 374, Keene.....Keene |
| " 77, Faithful Brethren.....Lindsay | " 375, Lorne.....Omeme |
| " 101, Corinthian.....Peterborough | " 398, Victoria.....Kirkfield |
| " 114, Hope.....Port Hope | " 406, The Spry.....Fenelon Falls |
| " 139, Lebanon.....Oshawa | " 408, Murray.....Beaverton |
| " 145, J. B. Hall.....Millbrook | " 428, Fidelity.....Port Perry |
| " 155, Peterborough.....Peterborough | " 435, Havelock.....Havelock |
| " 223, Norwood.....Norwood | " 440, Arcadia.....Minden |

PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT, NO. 13. (19.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. H. G. Stafford, Rednerville.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| No. 11, Moira.....Belleville | No. 123, Golden Rule.....Campbellford |
| " 17, St. John's.....Cobourg | " 127, Franck.....Frankford |
| " 18, Prince Edward.....Picton | " 161, Percy.....Warkworth |
| " 29, United.....Brighton | " 164, Star in the East.....Wellington |
| " 38, Trent.....Trenton | " 215, Lake.....Ameliasburg |
| " 48, Madoc.....Madoc | " 222, Marmora.....Marmora |
| " 50, Consecon.....Consecon | " 239, Tweed.....Tweed |
| " 69, Stirling.....Stirling | " 278, Mystic.....Roslin |
| " 91, Colborne.....Colborne | " 283, Eureka.....Belleville |
| " 123, The Belleville.....Belleville | " 401, Craig.....Deseronto |

FRONTENAC DISTRICT, NO. 14. (14.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. L. S. Lewis, Newboro.

| | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| No. 3, The Anc't St. John's.....Kingston | No. 201, Leeds.....Gananoque |
| " 9, Union.....Napanee | " 212, Elysian.....Garden Island |
| " 92, Cataraqui.....Kingston | " 228, Prince Arthur.....Odessa |
| " 109, Albion.....Harrowsmith | " 253, Minden.....Kingston |
| " 119, Maple Leaf.....Bath | " 299, Victoria.....Centerville |
| " 146, Prince of Wales.....Newburgh | " 404, Lorne.....Tamworth |
| " 157, Simpson.....Newboro' | " 441, Westport.....Westport |

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ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT. No. 15. (23.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. George Rook, Prescott.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| No. 5, Sussex.....Brockville | No. 242, Macoy.....Mallorytown |
| " 14, True Britons.....Perth | " 256, Farran's Point...Farran's Pt |
| " 24, St. Francis.....Smith's Falls | " 320, Chesterville.....Chesterville |
| " 28, Mount Zion.....Kemptville | " 368, Salem.....Brockville |
| " 55, Merrickville.....Merrickville | " 370, Harmony.....Delta |
| " 74, St. James.....Bethel | " 383, Henderson West Winchester |
| " 85, Rising Sun.....Farmersville | " 387, Lansdowne.....Lansdowne |
| " 110, Central.....Prescott | " 389, Crystal Fountain...N Angusta |
| " 125, Cornwall.....Cornwall | " 416, Lyn.....Lyn |
| " 142, Excelsior.....Morrisburg | " 418, Maxville.....Maxville |
| " 143, Friendly Brothers...Iroquois | " 439, Alexandria.....Alexandria |
| " 207, Lancaster.....Lancaster | |

OTTAWA DISTRICT, NO. 16. (18.)

D.D.G.M.—R. W. Bro. Geo. S. May, Ottawa.

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| No. 21a, St. John's.....Vanleek Hill | No. 177, The Builders'.....Ottawa |
| " 52, Dalhousie.....Ottawa | " 186, Plantagenet.....Plantagenet |
| " 58, Doric.....Ottawa | " 196, Madawaska.....Aruprior |
| " 63, St. John's...Carleton Place | " 209, Evergreen.....Lanark |
| " 122, Renfrew.....Renfrew | " 231, Lodge of Fidelity.....Ottawa |
| " 128, Pembroke.....Pembroke | " 264, Chaudiere.....Ottawa |
| " 147, Mississippi.....Almonte | " 371, Prince of Wales.....Ottawa |
| " 148, Civil Service.....Ottawa | " 405, Mattawa.....Mattawa |
| " 159, Goodwood.....Richmond | " 433, Bonnechere.....Eganville |

ALGOMA DISTRICT, NO. 17. (8.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. Allan McDougall, Fort William.

| | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| No. 257, Shuniah.....Port Arthur | No. 417, Keewatin.....Keewatin Mills |
| " 412, Key Stone...Sault Ste Marie | " 442, Dymont.....Thessalon |
| " 414, Pequonga.....Rat Portage | U.D., Lake of the Woods...Rat Portage |
| " 415, Fort William...Fort William | U.D., Granite.....Fort Frances |

NIPPISSING DISTRICT NO. 18. (9.)

D.D.G.M.—R.W. Bro. Richard Mills, Bracebridge.

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| No. 352, Granite.....Parry Sound | No. 423, Stroug.....Sundridge |
| " 360, Muskoka.....Bracebridge | " 427, Nickel.....Sudbury |
| " 376, Unity.....Huntsville | " 434, Algonquin.....Emsdale |
| " 409, Golden Rule...Gravenhurst | 443, Powassan.....Powassan |
| " 420, Nipissing.....North Bay | |

NOT ATTACHED TO ANY DISTRICT

No. 293, The Royal Solomon Mother, Jerusalem, Palestine.

RECAPITULATION.

| | | |
|-----------------|---------------------|-----------|
| Erie | District No. 1..... | 22 Lodges |
| St. Clair | " 2..... | 20 " |
| London | " 3..... | 23 " |
| South Huron | " 4..... | 15 " |
| North Huron | " 5..... | 19 " |
| Wilson | " 6..... | 21 " |
| Wellington | " 7..... | 21 " |
| Hamilton | " 8..... | 21 " |
| Georgian | " 9..... | 19 " |
| Niagara | " 10..... | 21 " |
| Toronto West | " 11..... | 20 " |
| Toronto East | " 11a..... | 20 " |
| Ontario | " 12..... | 24 " |
| Prince Edward | " 13..... | 19 " |
| Frontenac | " 14..... | 14 " |
| St. Lawrence | " 15..... | 23 " |
| Ottawa | " 16..... | 18 " |
| Algoma | " 17..... | 8 " |
| Nipissing | " 18..... | 9 " |
| Unattached..... | | 1 " |
| Total..... | | 361 |

SUSPENSIONS FOR U. M. C., 1897-'98.

No. 25—John G. Gibson. 155—Thos. Brady. 193—Jas. Zimmerman. 274—M. F. Pumaville. 332—J. G. Yeaman. 354—Geo. S. Booth. 438—John G. Gibson.

SUSPENSIONS FOR N. P. D., 1897-'98.

No. 5—G. A. Allan, T. G. Cook, F. Kuhn, A. L. Riddel, B. R. Woods. 11—W. Gordon, W. Thompson, J. H. Mills, J. H. Starling, I. Ketcheson, W. A. Roblin, R. A. Davis, Robt. J. Orr, W. V. McCaithy, A. Ormond, G. Easton, W. S. Lazier, T. J. Benson, Wm. E. Thomas, Hy. Cane. 15—J. C. Ricket, J. Vanderburgh, J. G. Sistonson. 16—J. McIntyre, H. Richards, R. Vogan. 18—W. H. R. Allison, W. D. Allison, M. R. Allison, A. Bull, Wm. Batton, W. E. Baker, S. Ellis, W. J. Handley, B. Johnson, Wm. W. McCaw, Wm. P. Reynolds, Geo. W. Snider. 21a—R. H. Marston, D. J. McMillan, C. Kirby, W. M. Eagleton, A. R. Fraser, D. Beaton, D. McAlpine, Jas. Borritt. 22—S. Foglor, A. F. Groves, E. J. Fawke, Geo. Bone, Jas. Gardiner. 25—F. P. Cowan, A. L. Aubin, W. J. Morris. 27—T. C. Aillardice, H. Hargrove. 29—L. Whitton, G. H. Sherwood, Wm. Coyle, W. F. Bald. 30—M. Harper, L. T. Barclay. 33—J. H. Killey. 35—J. G. Roberts, W. T. Lillie. 40—D. Blackley, T. J. Baninster, W. H. Gray, J. Herrinan, S. R. Hammond, A. R. Webber, R. Irwin, R. Morgan, R. Unsworth. 43—Jas. Baird, R. C. West, D. B. Phillips, H. B. Sproat, M. W. Yeo, Jas. Virtue, H. N. Abell, A. Garner, Robt. Kerr. 44—J. C. Levessey, H. Keith, D. A. Sinclair, J. H. Thompson, J. A. Sqaunce. 46—M. Michelson. 47—G. Montgometry, Alex. Robertson. 55—J. B. Arnold, Thos. Boyd, H. C. Cornell. 61—E. Ironside, J. Martin, Wm. B. Leather, H. Cartmell. 62—W. J. W. Ryan, J. B. Munro, J. Overend, Wm. Sharp, J. Jerome, A. Shirra, D. C. Smith. 63—J. Scott, J. Boris, D. Knox. 64—A. G. Strogan, W. J. Teasdel, T. H. Wells, H. A. McCallum. 72—S. Edmonds, J. L. Murray, J. R. Clunis. 75—J. A. Troutman, J. Shuimmer, J. C. Silver, Thos. D. Ellis, J. M. McIntosh, W. E. Austin. 76—J. H. Brown, E. H. Small, H. T. Woodrooffe, R. H. Vandecar. 78—T. Arnold, C. Parkins, C. L. Rennie, W. Morrison, J. S. Oswald, C. M. Hill, E. A. Browne, W. Norris, J. W. Wood, J. Smith, Wm. Parker, L. C. Sinclair, Sr., G. E. Maguire, J. C. Clark. 82—W. Watson, J. Sorly, A. Gowans, I. Y. Wood. 83—Wm. Ferguson, J. G. Raymond. 84—Wm. McGee. 87—R. Fee, J. Reesor, J. Simpson, E. Keegan. 90—G. Glover, J. W. Nicholson, T. Lawrence, A. A. Cameron. 92—Geo. Carruthers, M. Patterson, Wm. Reid, H. Rodway, Wm. Gibb, Wm. Henry. 93—J. Fair, J. Crawford, W. J. Henry, G. T. Newcombe, A. J. Evans, A. K. Frazer. 96—J. S. Sydney, G. M. Noland. 97—D. Robinson, F. Robinson, M. B. Douglas. 98—W. B. Willoughby, J. Walker, W. Crawford, W. H. Gray. 101—G. B. Sproule, W. G. Bain, J. H. Glass. 104—W. H. Miller, J. F. Yates, J. E. Atwood, F. Clare. 105—Jas. E. Jones. 106—Wm. Davey. 110—W. D. Birchall, E. Rooney, Wm. Stitt. 119—Thos. Seaward. 121—T. A. Fenton, W. T. James, G. Kettlewell, J. H. Williman. 122—F. Purvis. 123—E. Bartlett, A. H. Vancott, O. Lazier. 125—E. A. Graveley. 126—Wm. Patterson. 127—W. A. Depew, P. Harder. 131—I. L. Sherlock, J. Creighton, M. D. McInnes, W. S. Scott, W. H. Scott, W. J. Holden, C. R. Hopkins, J. G. Douglass. 133—J. Darling, J. Loadman, S. Trueman. 135—C. E. Flatt, D. A. McClenehan, W. E. Bradley, R. Brown, J. Cudmore. 136—J. Higin, J. W. Bowman, T. Williamson, J. Monkhouse. 140—John E. Black. 145—J. Byers, J. Sanderson, B. Raper, A. A. Ryley, T. B. Collins, J. Beatty. 147—Jos. Carr, Wm. Gibb. 153—R. Stirrett, Jno. Williamson, Jas. Dennis. 155—G. A. Harvey, E. Richardson. 156—T. G. Elgie, J. L. Playter, J. Shepard, R. F. Williams, W. J. Moule, S. Cocker, G. H. Stephenson, H. E. Webster, F. Sleight. 161—A. M. Sanborne, C. A. Mallory, A. H. Smith, T. S. Baker, E. Stowe, R. McPherson, H. Mulhern, E. Dibble, W. Dingman, F. Davidson, B. Benaar, L. Goheen, Geo. H. Boyce. 164—P. C. Vanhorne, G. E. Minns, J. W. McG. Yourex. 165—I. Balmer, A. Bowie, W. W. Cross, J. Ewing, R. C. Stewart. 169—A. K. Schofield, E. Augustine, Wm. Pope. 172—H. Walder, Robt. Fernly. 174—R. Dease, W. K. Parks. 180—Peter Gokie, Jas. Philip. 184—W. R. Wills, D. Kerr. 192—C. McInnis, W. H. Manning, A. Colley, W. M. Harvie, E. F. Cooke, A. Reid, H. Greenland, R. P. Knowles, Alex. Leischman, T. H. Robinson, Rt. Strathearn. 194—Wm. Richardson, Wm. Smythe. 200—Wm. Currie, W. H. Kingston. 205—Samuel Merner, D. Ritz. 207—R. D. Dewar, J. Partridge. 215—W. E. DeLong, D. Gibson, W. S. Fox, A. W. Young, E. M. Van Dusen, J. M. Roote, Jas. Elliott. 216—R. W. Greig, John S. Max, Wm. Ritchie, Wm. Dudgeon, Geo. M. Wright. 217—J. W. Matthews. 218—F. Howell, E. E. King, M. W. Murdoff, D. C. McCauliffe, W. S. Newman, W. R. Pearce, James Whitfield. 219—L. Auld. 221—J. Lawson, H. Pattick, T. C. Lampman. 222—J. C. Bowen, M. Fidler. 223—J. A. Harper, E. Gear, Geo. Embleton. 224—Chas. Meyers. 229—Wm. H. Campbell, J. F. Mitchell, C. W. Crogan. 230—S. J. Reist, J. Clarke, Jos. Rogers, C. W. Dalby, J. Chilton, E. A. Mitchell, J. S. Sanford, J. J. Herron. 233—S. A. Metherell, Wm. W. Watts, G. J. Musgrove. 236—Wm. W. Bantinhimer. 237—A. C. Foy. 242—H. Griffin, N. M. Kelly. 245—R. Langford, T. Twigg. 247—Alex. Robertson. 249—J. B. Howell, A. E. Williams on, C. Wilbur. 250—R. Davis. 253—W. C. Martin, W.

E. Grass, J. T. McMahon, W. H. Gates, C. H. Martin. 254—G. Chapman, P. Secord, F. Menzie. 255—D. Galbraith. 257—W. S. Detlor, J. R. Vaughau, A. S. Clark, J. Cushman, T. Saspinnall, Wm Grant. J. A. Harris, T. J. Semour, R. Fairgrieve, Jas McEwen. 258—Wm Berry, C. Armstrong, Geo W Jones. 260—H. Benfield, A. McCall, J. Ferguson, Wm Pringle. 264—J. Feldman, P. Robertson. 267—I. M. Crowell, J. Dell, J. E. Kistruck, Wm Blight, W. N. Cook. 268—J. Henderson, S. D. Cairns. 271—Arch Pringle. 274—D. S. Adams, F. S. Bonnsall, J. L. Best, H. Brackett, R. Cumming, W. R. Fellous, H. A. Miller, T. McColl, D. D. F. Grant, J. Soper, T. B. Shillington, A. Tedford, W. P. Williamson. 276—J. J. Allon, T. Alaron, C. Fraser, W. G. Morrison, U. E. Clark, B. Sneyppard. 282—R. Dobson. 283—Jas Gordon, Hy Farnham, G. S. Tickell, J. J. Harwood, H. A. Yeomans, R. P. Hamilton, A. R. Walker, E. H. Tickell, R. P. Naylor. 285—J. Huyers. 287—J. Dickenson, J. Conmee, W. H. Law, W. H. Arnold. 289—W. Jury, G. C. Oliver. 292—J. J. Campbell, A. Jarvis. 297—Herman Von Eude. 299—J. Shannon, E. Williams, C. Anson. 302—M. A. Payne, T. Pinfold, E. P. C. Pittfield, Chas O'Heron, E. R. Wilson, H. Hart, W. Morris. 304—J. W. Jacks. 307—John Patterson. 312—J. James, J. A. Burgess, A. F. Gatzke, M. P. Enipey, W. N. Ayers, Jr, W. N. Ayers, Sr, J. F. Roebuck. 314—B. Butterworth. 316—J. Brown, T. Downey, C. Channell, D. H. Fraser, W. F. Henderson, E. S. Jean, W. Jamison, A. A. Knox, F. G. Miller, J. F. Marshall, A. G. Malcolm, W. R. Rosentingle. 319—Jacob Miller. 321—N. Keith. 323—F. J. Benner, C. J. Parker, D. McFarlane, J. W. Fitzpatrick, H. Liddon. 324—E. S. Collins, C. B. Clark, James Hannah, W. Newman, H. P. Breary, G. T. Simpson. 330—J. W. Cox, G. Carrothers, J. N. Wood, R. Stanley, D. C. Kennedy, M. W. S. J. Watson, O. A. Dockham, R. Johnston, J. Beresford, F. W. Parker. 333—A. Neilson, Rt Neilson, D. T. Wright. 334—E. Keegan, J. Bright, G. Smith, G. A. Mitchell, Geo Scroggie. 337—W. Cook, W. H. Andrews. 339—P. M. Bates, E. C. Lowman, W. H. Michand, D. McVicar, R. J. Newall, T. Waters, D. W. Waddell. 343—Chas Newton, A. H. Macdonald. 346—J. R. Elmes, R. T. Gorman, N. B. Hare, C. W. Hamilton, W. J. McLelland, J. B. Rowney. 348—R. C. Ganshow. 354—L. Patterson, J. Davidson, Rt Way, A. Corner. 356—J. C. Tibb, J. Burton, G. H. Drawley, H. G. Reid, W. Todd. 359—Wm Mitchell. Sr. 360—J. G. Campbell, E. B. Burt, T. Chalmers, G. Marshall, J. E. Lount, S. C. D. Roper, D. E. Bastedo. 362—Robt McMinn, J. G. Edgar. 364—D. Campbell, J. W. Brown, E. Holloway, Ed Fenwick, G. W. Trayte. 367—W. J. Burroughes, D. Craig, T. Hobbs. 368—C. G. McClean, D. F. Cordingley, F. W. Lord, J. H. Perkins, J. S. Stewart. 371—H. Parks. 373—C. Swazie, A. S. Arrstrong, Wm Earley, G. B. Knowles, H. M. Hyman. 377—J. E. Marshall, W. H. Stenhoff, R. Hartley. 378—J. H. Farrell, J. Nicholl, A. B. Powell, W. A. Garratt, A. Loughrey, Thos Cockerill, W. G. Moore, Thos. Watson. 380—M. Baldwin, J. Paterson, R. B. Evans, Geo H. Wyatt. 382—Jos Cable, A. J. Davis, F. Young. 383—Jas Minion, A. D. Wishart, H. F. McArthur. 384—B. E. Swazie, Geo A. Summers, S. S. Young. 388—J. T. Charlton. 390—J. C. Ellison, A. H. Stratton. 391—T. Shippy, T. Wilson, S. Beedle. 392—J. Cairns, M. Carrick. 393—Hugh Carr. 399—J. Greenlees, Wm McEwen. 398—J. C. Kyle. 399—W. Cornish. 403—Geo A. Goodman, S. Clapp, W. C. Armstrong, J. B. Churchill, F. H. Mann, Geo Stockwell. 404—P. F. Carscallen, Geo Mills. 409—F. H. Hornsby, C. W. Dalby, J. Wilkinson, D. C. McKay, R. Ligget, G. H. Allan, F. Newton. 410—D. A. Campbell, H. A. Yuille, A. W. Leaholm, E. G. Mingay. 414—A. L. Ferguson, F. Campbell, A. McQuarrie, C. H. Moore, Ed Allen, W. Hughes, H. F. Holmes, J. Moshey. 416—R. P. Boyd, Jas Bullock, Wm C. Bullock. 419—G. Mellon, Wm Bright, Geo Draper. 424—D. T. Every. 425—J. Muir, J. D. McDonald, W. R. Vosbinder. 430—W. N. Barnhardt, W. H. Lucas, R. S. G. Deniod, E. R. Miller. 442—S. T. Maguire.

DEATHS, 1897-98.

No. 2—John R. Kirkland, 23rd November, '97. 3—A. F. March, 8th February, '98. 5—R. Crawford, 20th September, '97; John Grant, 6th December, '97. 6—C. H. Webster, 19th January, '97; W. Grayson, 1st January, '97; John White, 3rd May, '97; D. Carr, 30th January, '97; W. Servos, 1st June, '97; J. R. Servos, 21st June, '97. 7—A. B. Randall, 16th July, '97; E. E. Loosley, 6th September, '97; W. H. Hunt, 22nd December, '97. 11—Chas Allen, 15th August, '97. 15—J. C. Harris, 18th September, '97; J. McLaren, 21st July, '97. 16—Robt Hull, 12th October, '97; S. Bispham, 26th December, '97; J. Linton, 27th December, '97; E. Barrass, 6th March, '98. 18—F. J. Beiringer, 15th December, '97. 20—Wm Tripp, June, '97; J. K. Clare, 23rd August, '97; Jas Perkin, 24th September, '97. 22—Robt Pearson, 23rd July, '97; D. Spry, 12th August, '97; W. C. Morrison, 3rd August, '97; W. E. Riley, 15th January, '98. 24—Wm Crozier, 22nd January, '98. 25—J. A. De La Hooke, 18th September, '97; J. D. Hay, 8th November, '97; Wm J. Franks, 9th June, '98. 27—S. Searle, 25th July, '97. 30—R. Willis, 30th March, '98; John A. Matthews, 12th March, '97. 31—Wm McKay, 6th October, '97; R. J. Shaw, 2nd January, '98. 32—Arch Galbraith, 4th February, '98. 37—George Murray, 23rd November, '97. 38—J. W. Knox, 5th March, '98. 40—Edment Hill, 27th October, '97; T. Hutchinson, 3rd March, '98; M. E. Bessy, 14th March, '98; Jos Herron, 11th May, '98. 41—John Wye, 11th April, '98; J. Barnes, 18th April, '98; A. Orton, 11th June, '98. 42—R. Rich, 25th August, '97; Wm F. Southcott, 23rd April, '97. 43—J. F. McGachie, 2nd April, '97; H. L. Hunter, 11th December,

'97. 44—S Peters, 11th August, '97; Alex McIntyre, 23rd February, '98. 36—Jos Williams, 21st January, '97. 47—A Turner, 7th May, '98; John Morrow, 28th March, '98. 52—Jas McCullough, 30th September, '97; Jno Munro, 13th December, '97; Chas Sims, 1st March, '98. 54—Thos Townsend, 10th October, '97; John Hanna 8th December, '97; John Gray (no date). 56—Geo Morris, 11th November, '98; 57—H E Etherington, 20th January, '98. 61—F J Rastrick, 12 September, '97; Geo Towers, 8th November, '97; Hy Sweetman, 5th December, '97. 63—E G P Pickup, 10th October, '97. 64—Geo Leigh, 9th May, '97; Geo F Brown, 3rd October, '97. 65—Hy Kirkland, 11th July, '97; D Spry, 12th August, '97; Samuel Stoodley, 14th June, '98. 72—G C Hineman, 12th July, '98. 73—J W Robinson, 18th June, '98. 75—W G Murdoch, 2nd July, '97; W Hamilton, 2nd March, '98; John Bland, April, '98. 78—B W Colver, 26th August, '97; C R Brown, 10th December, '97; Jas Rice, 6th February, '98. 84—R Haywood, 28th May, '98. 86—C P Lennox, 2nd February, '98; S G Stoodley, 14th June, '98. 90—G Collins, 25th June, '97; O P Rowland, 13th October, '97; W H Wensley, 17th February, '98. 91—Wm E Kemp, 25th October, '97. 92—Wm Wilson, 17th February, '97; John Williams, 1st March, '97. 93—John Munn, 13th December, '97. 96—C H Kortright, 23rd December, '97. 103—S Emmett, 18th November, '97; J Warner, 5th December, '97. 104—A P Miller, 7th May, '98. 105—John Schabel, 26th September, '96; M B Morris, 24th October, '96; Chas Keller, 7th June, '98. 107—Jas Scott 2nd March, '98. 108—D H Hunter, 21st May, '98. 109—Jesse Shibley, 7th December, '97. 122—John Munroe, 13th December, '97; John Burns, 5th February, '98. 127—A Sharpe, 22nd December, '97. 128—Thos Burton, 26th March, '98. 129—J G Tinline, 25th December, '97. 131—M McKenzie, 21st March, '97. 133—John David, 19th December, '97. 135—D Campbell, 6th October, '97. 137—S R Eagles, 16th July, '97. 140—Geo I Walker, 26th November, '97; Asa Miller, 12th June, '98. 141—Jas Hall, 30th June, '97. 144—F D Hamilton, 18th June, '98; Jas Green, 12th July, '98. 146—E J Madden, 17th January, '98. 151—S Weaver, 25th July, '97; H Zappe, 5th June, '98; A Mueller, January, '98. 153—Thos Hewett, 12th November, '97; R S Pritchard, 2nd December, '97. 157—H S Davidson, 26th March, '98. 159—A Smirle, October, '97; F Buchan, April, '98. 166—S Williams, 15th October, '97. 169—C H Carter, 14th March, '97. 177—Geo A Harris, 5th April, '98. 178—Geo Risk, 12th January, '98. 180—D Hunter, 26th July, '97; G H Lawrence, 3rd October, '97; S Shaw, 28th October, '97; H Nicholson, 25th November, '97; F St C Dunn, 3rd May, '98. 184—J Findlator, 21st March, '98. 196—Jno Munroe, 15th December, '97. 200—Jos Kilgour, 22nd August, '97; P H Yeomans, 15th April, '98. 209a—Jas Taylor, 15th November, '97; Wm McCormack, 12th October, '97; J T O'Brien, 3rd November, '97; G C Davis, 21st October, '97; D Spry, 12th August, '97. 216—D McKenzie, 17th June, '97; Arch Smith, 11th August, '97. 218—W C Morrison, 3rd August, '97. 219—John Brain, March, '97; W Scollen, 3rd May, '97; Jas Graham, 8th February, '98. 221—Wm Pike, 12th July, '97. 222—Geo Wiley, July, '97. 224—Chauncey Bennett, 25th January, '98. 225—J Heppler, 27th January, '98. 230—D Spry, 12th August, '97. 231—Geo J Wilson, 26th September, '97; S G A Anderson, 26th January, '98. 234—W R Hunter, 8th August, '97. 237—Geo W Davis 3rd March, '96. 239—S G Fisher, 15th November, '97. 242—E Purvis, 16th September, '96. 243—Jno Lyell, 13th October, '97. 247—J H Burns, 20th December, '97; S N Windrum, 26th February, '98. 253—Wm Skinner, 19th March, '98. 254—P A Johnson, 30th April, '98. 257—Jas McQueen, 8th December, '97. 258—J H Findley (no date); C Davidson, 17th February, '98. 262—R G Lamb rt, 19th May, '98. 269—Jas Adair, 19th April, '97; Jas Milne, 3rd May, '98. 270—Thos Scott, 30th May, '97. 274—R Hall, 6th March, '98. 279—E Limpert, 23rd February, '98; J Pickup, 28th May, '98. 283—H Fowell, 10th July, '97. 284—F C Rodgers, 5th June, '98. 286—Jno Farron, 18th September, '97. 287—John Watt, 7th January, '97; Wm Rapsy, 3rd October, '97. 290—Jas Baker, 23rd August, '97; A D Williams, 30th October, '97; R L Maun, 15th April, '98. 292—J McCallum, 14th June, '98. 294—J P McDonald, 2nd February, '98. 296—J W Brown, 5th June, '98. 302—E A McCrimmon, 8th August, '97. 305—J Linton, 27th December, '98; D Stewart, 8th May, '98. 307—A L McCorkindale, 29th August, '97. 312—Jas Fisher, 14th November, '97. 313—B Chamberlain, 13th July, '97. 314—Robt Munro, 2nd December, '97. 316—M McPherson, 26th January, '97; J Wright, 6th May, '97; F P Birlay, 7th November, '97. 318—Chas Witte (no date). 320—F K L Chrysler (no date). 322—Gas Douglass, 14th February, '98; Geo Inglis, 1st March, '98. 323—W Hands, 26th January, '98; C W Pray, 17th May, '98. 324—Thos Lawry, 20th November, '97; A W Pedler, 14th April, '98. 326—C Martin, September, '97; J R MacMillan, July, '97; G M Rose, 10th February, '98. 329—M Jaques, 21st May, '98. 330—J F Gardiner, 1st November, '97; Jas A Ross, January, '98. 332—J J Bunting, 25th February, '98. 339—Jos Chapman, 19th December, '97. 343—Wm Brooks, 26th March, '97. 345—A R Rowat, 2nd April, '98. 346—H Armstrong, 28th September, '97; W Townsend, 28th June, '97; Jas Allen, 3rd September, '97. 356—Geo H Falconer, 14th September, '97. 358—John Barber, 14th July, '97; R R Moutgomery, 18th May, '98. 359—D W McCall, 16th May, '98. 364—Donald McRae, 14th November, '97. 367—Wm Bell, 18th December, '97; S E Burns, 18th January, '98. 368—John Grant, 6th December, '97. 373—Jas Mc-

Glashan, 26th August, '96. 378—H B Schram, 31st July '97; B J Nash, 3rd January, '98. 380—W G McMillen, 9th May, '97. 382—R J Harper, 26th July, '97; J A P McKenna, 20th December, '97; Harry Sweetman' 5th December, '97. 385—E Bell, 16th May, '98. 386—Robt McFate, 6th February, '97. 397—J A Doty, 24th August, '97. 399—Robt Tracy, 8th March, '97. 402—J T Brown, 8th August, '97; Jas Cunningham, 16th November, '97. 403—Chas J Lowry, 28th April, '98. 405—Geo Sayer, 28th November, '97. 412—W R Hunter, 8th August, '97; T W Brown, 13th January, '98; J W Dunn, 25th March, '98. 417—A H Van Etten, 10th December, '97. 419—Geo Dunlop, 28th August, '97. 425—Asa Cronk 10th April, '98. 426—T J M Cottere l, 1st August, '97. 436—R Maxwell, 10th April, '98. 437—Jas Mason, 7th December, '97; C W Garvey, 27th September, '97. 441—F W Anderson, 13th June, '98. Dymont Lodge, U D, Geo Avis, 10th February, '98.

RESTORATIONS, 1897-'98.

No. 2—Alford Williams. 10—H B Wickens. 11—W R Kelly, F H Lewis, R A Davis, T J Benson, H R Beattie. 15—Jas C Harris, C L Mills, C A Tilden. 16—D McCullough, D Wilson, H Miller, Wm Smellie. 24—N F Stevens, Jas McCrum. 26—J Dickenson, Wm Andrew. 29—R J Hewitt, Wm Coyle. 38—R Hamilton, T Evans, P F Boulton, J T McKenzie, J E Baker. 40—F Stewart 42—I H Code. 44—Thos A Parish, G W Countryman. 47—John Coombs, Wm Belsom, D McDonald. 52—Jas Carter. 55—R Brombridge, Thos. Boyd. 57—R Menzie. 58—J Erratt. 61—J W Ripley, M A Collins, W R Fish. 65—R Harrison, D Sleeth, Jas Dale, G Hemmingway, C Newman, G A Rose, F Hodge, C Heys, W Bayley. 73—Jos Stafford. 75—John Ewen. 77—B R Kimball. 78—Jeff W Wood, Thos Arnold, C A Parkin, Geo Smith, J A Garnham. 81—Jos Lee. 84—Jas Ross. 86—Geo Davie. Chas Spanner, C Callighan, F M Upton, G C Moore, J G Howarth, C Reeves, H Limall, E P McNeil. 90—J G Hands. 91—H Hicks, B Hinman, W Herington, J W Warren. 97—F Robinson. 98—S Cobane. 100—Hy Crowe. 103—C E Secord, R W Lawrie. 104—L F Bungay, S Smiley. 106—Chas H Flood. 113—E W Burgess, W Cunningham. 121—Alf Ellerby. 125—A F Milliken, E A Graveley. 135—A Coffee, J W Frazer. 137—H Helstrop. 146—E A Connolly. 151—Carl Krantz. 155—J A Roberts. 158—Alex Hinks. 162—J Rutherford, W Stinson, D McDonald. 185—F A Nellis. 193—W H Teeter. 207—R D Dewar, Wm Crawford. 212—Alex McMillan, Jr. 216—O W Gjeurdum, G B Lyndsay. 217—L H Sinden. 218—Alex Donaldson, C C Rockwood, John Millar. 225—A Hess. 228—H B Senior. 229—W H Campbell. 233—R J Kerr. 234—W R Hunter. 236—W W Baulinhimer. 242—P Ferguson, N M Kelly, Jas P Miller. 243—Jos Vansickle. 247—John Alexander. 250—S S Wilson. 266—B Beatty. 267—G H Atkinson, J Carpenter, W E Rispin, E Bedford. 270—Thos Scott, A Carswell. 271—R H Galbraith. 283—H Farnham. 286—R Davidson. 287—W J Johnson, J Dickens. n. 289—Thos Oliver, C Leckey, G H Routledge. 290—H J Coulson, J D Kimball. 294—Geo Stewart. 296—Geo Wills. 299—C S Ash. 305—Robt McIntyre, Jas McClinchy. 312—John Ross. 316—Sidney Adlard, F. Britton. 318—A M Gabel. 320—Wm McLeod. 326—J R Muir. 333—P McCullough, W H Flesher. 337—W S Elliott 338—R Angle. 339—H T Walker. 341—A C McLeod. 346—T S Webster, Jas Fawcett, J L Baird, G T Blackbird, A G Wahl, Wm H Smith, J A Flood, J Hetherington, T Hughes. 354—W G Smith, J H Lacy. 366—Hy G Reid, Geo H Drawley, W S Westney. 358—J Steinhoff. 361—E L Hunt. 367—J T Jones, J Scott, Thos Jones. 368—F W Lord. 371—A Beuzelin. 376—G J Tutt. 378—H L Fysh, J P Element, W H Heard, John B Smyth, J Kincaid, W J M Watam, Jas Jefferies, W J Garrett. 380—C J Smith, J Constable, J Gilmore, J Learn, C F Pereira. 385—S Huff, J C Morrison. 398—J Collins, D C McDougall, N Salman, W H Decater. 402—H Barlow. 410—M Wright. 411—J G Huston. 412—W C Forster, S King, J A Dunseath. 415—R McGregor, J McDougall, W J Robertson. 426—A Jenner.

In Memoriam

Most Worshipful Brother

DANIEL SPRY

Past Master of King Solomon's Lodge, No. 22, Toronto;
Past Grand Master.

Died 12th August, 1897.

Right Worshipful Brother

WILLIAM MCKAY

Past Master of Jerusalem Lodge, No. 31, Bowmanville;
P. D. D. G. M. Ontario Nistrict, No. 12.

Died 6th October, 1897.

Right Worshipful Brother

D. H. HUNTER

Past Master of Waterdown Lodge, No. 357, Millgrove;
P. D. D. G. M. Wilson District, No. 6.

Died 21st May, 1898.

Right Worshipful Brother

GEO. C. DAVIS

Past Master of St. John's Lodge, No. 209a, London;
Past Grand Junior Warden.

Died 21st October, 1897.

In Memoriam

Right Worshipful Brother

GEORGE INGLIS

Past Master of North Star Lodge, No. 322, Owen Sound;
Past Grand Junior Warden.

Died 1st March, 1898.

Very Worshipful Brother

F. J. RASTRICK

Past Master of Acacia Lodge, No. 61, Hamilton;
Past Grand Supt. of Works.

Died 12th September, 1897.

Very Worshipful Brother

E. E. LOOSLEY

Past Master Union Lodge, No. 7, Grimsby;
Past Grand Sword Bearer.

Died 6th September, 1897.

Very Worshipful Brother

GEORE RISK

Past Master of Plattsville Lodge, No. 178, Plattsville;
Past Grand Steward.

Died 12th January, 1898.

LIST OF GRAND OFFICERS FOR 1898-9.

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R. W. Bro. R. B. HungerfordLondon

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| " C. McDonald | Tilsonburg | " C. C. Norris | Toronto |
| " Chas. Turnbull | Galt | " W. E. Foote | Parry Sound |
| " J. C. Carruthers | Cayuga | " W. E. Sawyer | Mt. Brydges |

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Bro. John Sweetman, Ottawa.

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| R. W. Bro. John Walsh | U. States of Columbia | Bro. Antonia M. Mollejas | Santa Fe Jose B. Alvarez.....Caracas |

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APPENDIX TO PROCEEDINGS OF 1898.

Report on Correspondence.

HENRY ROBERTSON, *Chairman.*

To the Most Worshipful Grand Master and the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Canada, in the Province of Ontario.

The Committee on Correspondence beg leave to present their annual report on the Proceedings of other Grand Lodges, which have been placed in their hands for perusal and review.

Your Committee are pleased to be able to announce the continuance of harmony and prosperity in nearly all the jurisdictions with whom we are in correspondence. There is no discord apparent, the work of the Craft has been faithfully carried on, and our relations with the other Grand Lodges continue to be of the most fraternal character.

Numerous interesting questions are discussed in the voluminous works before us, and these will be noticed as we proceed. The extracts given from the addresses and reports will be mainly the utterances of representative Masons, who have given great attention to their subjects, and whose opinions are in general entitled to respectful consideration.

For convenience of reference, the jurisdictions are placed in alphabetical order, and a list will be found at the end of the report. At the present writing, we have the Proceedings of all the Grand Lodges in North America, except those of Mississippi and Oklahoma, and we have also New South Wales, New Zealand, Tasmania and Victoria in the Australasian region.

ALABAMA.

Here we rest.

"Haste is of the devil." *The Koran.*

"The hand of little employment hath the daintiest sense."

77th Communication, Montgomery, Dec. 7, 1897.

James A. Bilbro, G. M.

The opening remarks of the Grand Master contain

matter for serious consideration, and they show that he has a high appreciation of the true teachings of Masonry :

“ Desiring to know whether our subordinate lodges observe and practice certain virtues, which are essential to true Masonic character, in April last I addressed a letter to each of them, asking to be informed specifically in regard thereto. About one half of the lodges answered my inquiries; why the others did not I do not know. It may be that a sense of humiliation at their lack of duty and discipline as to the matters inquired about, kept them from doing so. A large majority of those heard from, I am pleased to state, have a membership who are Masons indeed. With them no Communication is held at which proper reverence is not shown to God—their members are living in harmony, and are ever watchful and prompt to respond to all calls of distress, and among them there are no cases of drunkenness or profanity. Other lodges, however, I regretfully say, are remiss in these matters. Several of them fail to open and close with prayer. Some are powerless for good because of dissensions among the brethren, while a large number failed to enforce proper discipline in respect to the vices of profaning God's name and drunkenness.

“ How it is, brethren, that a lodge can enter upon its business without invoking the aid of Deity I cannot understand. If God is not in Masonry then have I studied it in vain. Take Him out of it, or cease to honor Him in it, and it is scarcely more than sounding brass or tinkling cymbal. As to the evil of profanity and drunkenness, the unpublished edict of the Grand Lodge is clear and emphatic, and should be rigidly enforced. If we expect Masonry to prosper in its mission it should be pure. We will certainly see it die whenever we allow its holy precepts to be trampled under foot. The best and purest of its members will leave it with a sigh that its First Grand Light is so grossly dishonored.”

A scheme was recommended by the Grand Master and adopted by the Grand Lodge to raise funds for the purpose of establishing a Masonic Home in Alabama. A contribution box was ordered to be placed on the altar in Grand Lodge and one in each subordinate lodge to receive donations, and a Ladies Aid Society is also to be formed for the same laudable object.

On the second day of the session, the Grand Master laid the corner stone of the new Masonic Temple, erected in Montgomery by the Grand Lodge. M.W. Bro. George P. Harrison, P. G. M., delivered an able and instructive address on the occasion. The total cost was to be \$37,750, and the balance unpaid is \$10,000.

The Wisconsin relief proposition was not concurred in.

In his valuable report on Correspondence, Bro. Palmer J. Pillans has the following remarks in his review of Maine, on Masonry in Mexico :

“ We had almost concluded to give his views about Mexican

Masonry and the Gran Dieta Symbolica de Mexico, but determined to forego that pleasure. The fact is that if an applicant for the degree should exhibit to you such laxity as to the necessity of the Holy Bible as the rule and guide to life and such ignorance of what was right and what wrong, you would promptly reject him, yet here we are urged to take into the family, not one such only, but a multitude. It seems that their whims led them to perpetrate many follies, yet calling them Masonic, and they suffer the denunciation of these things to induce them to shift about like the weather-cock when the wind shifts. Where and what are their convictions of right and wrong? Time will prove their worthiness, we can afford to wait.

"We desire to express our most sincere and heartfelt sympathy for our dear afflicted Bro. Drummond, who prepared his report amid the most severe of afflictions. We have travelled the same rugged path and almost faltered by the way. But the Power which brought us to grief and 'doeth all things well' sustained us. We pray that he may feel His influence and look with renewed faith to that meeting, which we are assured shall have no end, neither will there be any more pain or sorrow there. For now thirty-one years have we communed together, and our brother has become endeared to us in a measure not to be described."

Lodges, 385; members, 11,368; increase, 312.

James A. Bilbro (Gadsden), G. M.

H. Clay Armstrong (Montgomery), G. S.

ARIZONA.

"He comes attended by the sultry Hours."

16th Communication, Bisbee, Nov. 9, 1897.

William F. Nichols, G. M.

The frontispiece to these Proceedings is a most remarkable picture, which is thus described:

"This picture shows the Masonic Grand Lodge of Arizona as it was held in the wonderful cave in the mine of the Copper Queen Consolidated Mining Company—the first and only time in modern Masonic history where this illustrious Order held its meeting in one of Nature's most beautiful lodge-rooms. It is reached by descending a perpendicular shaft two hundred feet, thence through a winding tunnel over eighteen hundred feet long. The cave is nearly two hundred and fifty feet in length, one hundred feet in width, and nearly the same in height; is almost entirely covered with pure lime crystals, some of which hang in great clusters resembling icicles; others on the sides beautiful frozen waterfalls, domes and towers; in color they are principally white, but in places have the beautiful green copper stain. As seen in the picture, the cave was beautifully illuminated by electric light, the letter "G" being entirely composed of incandescent globes. It presented a most wonderful and dazzling appearance—a scene never to be forgotten by those who witnessed it."

The Grand Master visited all the lodges and found

them all in good condition. "None but those who have travelled the rough roads of Arizona can appreciate the time, labor and expense involved in this trip."

The Gran Dieta of Mexico was recognized, and the Representative of that body was received at the meeting held in the wonderful cave of the Copper Queen mine, the magnificence of which delighted all beholders:

"Clothed in white gloves and aprons the two hundred men in line made an imposing appearance as they marched from the lodge to the hoisting works from which they were to descend into the mines and cave. In the line of march the Grand Lodge were in the rear, but on reaching the works the column halted, opened ranks and the Grand Lodge passed through, and were, of course, the first to enter the mine. They were scientifically stood on the cage a half dozen at a time, when down they went about two hundred feet in a second to the level by which the cave was reached. Then began the long march in single file through the winding, angling tunnel, which was illuminated the entire distance by candles set about ten feet apart, and each turn and crosscut carefully guarded by Masons, who are employed in the mine, till at length the individual passed through a temporary door into a scene of inexpressible splendor and beauty—the illuminated cave. The figure, the strength, the symmetry, the polished alabaster, the glittering wealth of gold and jewels of King Solomon's temple were here dazed and dimmed into insignificance by the brilliancy, the abounding wealth of exquisite forms of beauty, the majestic splendor of huge abutments literally covered by the most delicate tracery, the flash of a million jewels; the bold outline forms of grandeur and strength, clothed in glittering delicate chiseling, such as no human hand has ever wrought, the stupendous dome of the mountains above borne upon those noble and beautiful pillars, and all fresh from the hand of the Supreme Grand Architect of the Universe, filled one with the overwhelming emotions of surprise, of delight, of adoration.

"Stalactites from the size of a drop of water to that of the giant tusks of some antediluvian monster hung suspended from the roof, and beneath the white glare of the electric light they danced and shimmered like icicles in the sun. Single and in cluster, some in blue and some in white, of all lengths and shapes, these stalactites cover the roof, while among them in labyrinthine irregularity glitters the crystal ooze.

"On the north side, almost opposite to where the cave was first broken into the line, God has created the fairest creatures of his handiwork, and what King Solomon wrought in years was here fashioned in a single night; but a night that knew no day, nor the sound of axe, hammer or tool of iron till the operative workman, agreeably to the designs drawn upon the trestle board revealed its hidden treasures. Here are the steps, the pot of incense, the bee-hive, the hour-glass and waterfall. The steps, whiter than Parian marble, lead upward and into an unexplored beyond; the bee-hives, apparently made from great coils of alabaster rope, are from two to ten feet in diameter and six feet high. East of these is the waterfall, stayed midway in its descent by some hypno-

tic hand; white and awe inspiring in its silent grandeur is this seemingly stilled torrent of foaming waters that ere it slept had dashed its spray on hummocks of ice in a thousand fantastic shapes sparkled in the light. There are curtains and veils behind which no man may enter, woven white and transparent in the cimmerian darkness. The whole aspect of the cave is one of entrancing and bewildering loveliness, and he who can gaze without awe upon the grand scene has no beauty in his soul.

"The cave, which is probably one hundred and fifty by two hundred and fifty feet in dimensions, and an extreme height of about one hundred feet from the lowest to the highest point, was lighted by electricity. Eighteen thousand feet of wire have been used for the purpose, and one hundred and thirty-five lamps were used, some of them one hundred candle power. In the east hung a brilliant letter G, three feet in height, and studded by thirty-five electric lights of sixteen-candle power, a thing of beauty and joy in itself. In the vast space overhead the lights formed a great square and compass, the distance between the points of the extended compass being one hundred feet, and the length of each leg being one hundred and thirty feet. A sufficient portion of the cave for the use of the Masons had been floored and seated, and there beneath that great dome, seventy feet overhead, and surrounded by such glitter, such beauty, such strength, such overwhelming sense of location, such nearness and such a dependence upon the immediate handiwork of the Grand Master Mason of all, the Grand Lodge of Arizona was called on by the M. W. Grand Master."

Lodges, 15; members, 618; increase, 48.

Joseph B. Creamer (Phoenix), G. M.

George J. Roskruege (Tuscan), G. S.

ARKANSAS.

Rejoignant populi.

"Arts and Sciences are not cast in a mould, but are found and perfected by degrees, by often handling and polishing, as *Bears* leisurely lick their cubs into shape."

58th Communication, Little Rock, Nov. 16, 1897.

C. C. Ayers, G. M.

He reports two new lodges and the death of Past Grand Master, James M. Harkey.

Miss Maud Williams was elected to the scholarship in Galloway College, and just before the evening session she was introduced to the Grand Lodge, and in a few well chosen words, delivered with deep emotion, she expressed her grateful thanks to the Grand Lodge for having given her the privilege of receiving the benefits of education in the splendid college which had generously tendered the scholarship. Remarks were made by the Grand Master and other prominent brethren. The occa-

sion was a touching and interesting one. It presented to the Masonic Fraternity of Arkansas a bright and intelligent young girl as their ward, in whose future education and welfare they have a deep concern.

The Gran Diéta of Mexico was recognized, and it was decided to enter into fraternal relations with the Grand Orient of Portugal.

The Grand Lodge fees were increased, the increase to go towards the payment of the Temple debt, and it was also decided to hold biennial communications until the Temple debt is paid.

Bro. A. B. Grace presented an excellent report on Correspondence. In his notice of Canada for 1896, he says that the fact that nearly all of the lodges were officially visited probably accounts for the flourishing condition of the Craft here. In his review of Manitoba, Bro. Grace has the following very sensible remarks on attendance at church :

“ In recommending that the ‘ periodical attendance of the lodges ’ (in regalia) ‘ at divine service should be in every way facilitated and encouraged, ’ it strikes us that he is venturing on new and dangerous ground. At the risk of being misunderstood we venture the assertion that a Masonic Lodge, *as such*, has no business in a church except, perhaps, to attend the funeral of a brother. Masonry embraces in its membership every form of religion ; all doctrines and creeds of religious faith ; but, officially, it *knows* none of them. It would be embarrassing, to say the least of it, if the Non-Conformist, Jewish, Pebo-Baptists or Quaker brethren in one of those Manitoba lodges were called upon to put on their regalia and attend and participate in the regular service of the Established Church. Most good Masons are devout believers in God and worship Him, each after his own fashion, but surely no lodge can require its members to attend any particular church or, for that matter, any church at all. When we get to mixing our religion and Masonry we are laying a sure foundation for dissension and disintegration. We would better stand by our ancient landmarks, which forbid the introduction of religion and politics into the lodge.”

And on the same subject, we take the following from his notice of Nova Scotia :

“ Disclaiming all desire to offensively criticise our older and better informed brethren, we cannot resist remarking that a military brass band, a street parade, and a sermon in church, strikes us as a very remarkable combination. Again, Masonry is not a religious body, and religious services have no place in its ritual. In this case the sermon was an able one and in no case sectarian, except that it was based on the old and new Testament Scriptures. The Apostolic Church and our Lord Jesus Christ were held up as the light of modern days. We presume that the ordinary ritual

of the Church of England was used. If so, would it not have proved exceedingly embarrassing if, among the members of the Grand Lodge, there had been one or more of Roman Catholics or Jews, or both? The members of all Masonic bodies should, and most of them do, no doubt, attend divine worship, but the lodge, *as such*, whether subordinate or grand, has no place in any church and knows no faith or creed except to 'admire the glorious works of creation and adore their great Creator.'"

Lodges, 444; members, 12,678; decrease, 235.

J. B. Baker (Melbourne), G. M.

Fay Hempstead (Little Rock), G. S.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

"Great mountains, great rivers, great prospects."

26th Communication, Victoria, June 17, 1897.

Alex. Charleson, G. M.

He reports the condition of the lodges as peaceful, prosperous and progressive. They mourn the deaths of their Grand Treasurer, H. F. Heisterman, and P. G. M. Marcus Wolfe. The sum of \$314 was subscribed by the lodges towards the Famine Fund for India.

All the proposed amendments to the Constitution were voted down, as also was the Wisconsin relief proposition.

The District Deputy for No. 6 thus describes his visit to Rossland:

"On November 9th, 1896, I visited Rossland, and had the honor to constitute Corinthian Lodge and install its first officers. I found the officers there well up in their work, and while Rossland Lodge is under the direction of W. Bro. Raymer, the Grand Lodge can feel assured that our beautiful lessons of Virtue, Morality and Brotherly Love will be faithfully and impressively administered. After the constituting ceremonies the brethren, by some process perhaps only known to themselves, turned the lodge-room into a banqueting hall, where good cheer and fellowship prevailed, showing that while they were experts at labor, they were also masters at refreshment. I only regret I have not been able to repeat my visit. Corinthian Lodge has now 51 members, and has, since January, had an average attendance of 55. They own their building and furniture, valued at \$1,550, which they have fully paid for, and are now negotiating for the lots on which the building stands. Corinthian Lodge is easily the banner of the District."

The report on Correspondence is by Bros. W. A. De-Wolf Smith and A. R. Milne, and is a very creditable production. Canada for 1896 has special mention.

Lodges, 24; members, 1,242; increase, 31.

E. D. McLaren (Vancouver), G. M.

W. J. Quinlan (Victoria), G. S.

CALIFORNIA.

Eureka.

What female heart can gold despise?
 What cat's aversè to fish?"

48th Communication, San Francisco, Oct. 12, 1897.
 William T. Lucas, G. M.

Three Past Grand Masters passed away during the year, Alvah Russell Conklin, Clay Webster Taylor and Nathaniel Greene Curtis. The Grand Master reports the final settlement of the French lodge at Los Angeles:

"At the close of our last Annual Communication, I took up the unfinished work of the *Vallee de France* Lodge of Los Angeles. I continued the authority of Bro. Simon Cahen to heal such of the brethren who were known to have received the degrees in a regularly constituted lodge.

"When Bro. Cahen reported that those who were qualified, and desired to be, were properly healed, I appointed Bro. Armand Lemardelay—Bro. Ennis, the Inspector of the Thirty-sixth District, not understanding French—a special envoy to go to Los Angeles and qualify the proposed officers, and when the brethren were proficient, to issue a certificate to that effect, at the same time instructing the Grand Secretary to accept such certificate of qualification. This was done, and *Valle de France* Lodge is now working under a dispensation from this Grand Lodge."

The report of the Committee on Ritual is very interesting:

"1. We recommend the passage of a resolution for the creation of a permanent committee on ritual, the members of which shall be the custodians and censors of the text of the work.

"2. Whether the work, as now taught, is strictly the work as adopted by this Grand Lodge, is almost impossible to determine; but your committee do not believe it is, and certainly, whether heretofore adopted or not, it stands in need of some slight corrections.

"The population of this jurisdiction is eminently cosmopolitan, being made up of people from all parts of the habitable earth, and comprising Masons from almost every known jurisdiction. It is no matter of wonder that among such a people the peculiarities which have intruded themselves into other jurisdictions should assert themselves here, nor that some departures from the ancient text and some crudities and inconsistencies should have had birth on our soil. All Masons desire the preservation of the ancient work, and bear loyal adherence to those ceremonials and forms of teaching and impressing the grand moral lessons of Masonry which were inspired by lofty wisdom, and which have been sanctified by centuries.

"Innovation and modern invention have at all times been unpopular in the Masonic lodge, and your committee, in its review of the work, has not assumed to lay unkind hands upon a single

fragment of the honored structure, but wherever we have discovered a palpable innovation we have, for the purposes of this report, condemned it and thrown it out.

“Especially in the first and third degrees, as the work is now done, there are some inconsistencies, and we may say some absurdities, the elimination of which we earnestly recommend.

“Take no fright at this language, and be not apprehensive that we are about to put a coat of paint upon the old Marble Mansion; we merely propose to brush off the dust and cobwebs and leave the ancient structure as our honored progenitors builded it.

“Each change in the work as recommended is but slight in its extent; it will subject the officers of lodges to little if any extra labor to conform to the work as restored, and we trust and believe the members of this august body will approve what we have done.

“The committee convened in full session on the day succeeding their appointment and proceeded to adopt measures for the successful prosecution of the work intrusted to their hands. This work was given to a sub-committee of three, consisting of Past Master Edmund Clement Atkinson, Grand Lecturer Wm. Harvey Edwards and Frederick William Lucas, Inspector of the Twenty-eighth District, with instructions to report to the General Committee on completion of their labors. This sub-committee have worked diligently and faithfully, giving much of their time during the past year to the work entrusted to them. They have carefully revised and corrected the work of the three degrees and changed the phraseology so far as it relates to the grammatical construction of sentences and the proper use of terms. They have made extended research into the work of the second section of the third degree as taught and practiced in eastern jurisdictions, and have adopted so much thereof as will make the work of this jurisdiction conform thereto. They have succeeded in preparing a ritualistic work which your committee believe will be most pleasing and satisfactory to this Grand Body, and which, intelligently rendered, will impress in a forcible manner upon the candidate the beautiful teachings of Freemasonry.

“It is gratifying to this committee to observe that so much of the work of this jurisdiction has been preserved in this section of the third degree, and that so few changes have been made in the inauguration of the new features. It is the opinion of this committee that the work which will be presented for the consideration of this Grand Body will be recognized as being especially consistent with the ancient traditions upon which were founded the scenes represented in this degree. The committee designated for this work have prepared for the exemplification of the new ritual by selecting and instructing a sufficient number of accomplished brethren, who will, it is believed, present the proposed work in a very pleasing and acceptable manner. And, in order that members of this Grand Body may witness the exemplification, your committee recommend that authorization be given for the conferring of the several degrees in accordance with a resolution herewith presented.

“In conclusion, your committee cannot too strongly emphasize the necessity of selecting permanent custodians of the work adopted, in order that a uniformity of the same may be preserved and promulgated throughout the jurisdiction.”

The Grand Lecturer gives a clear view of the condition of the lodges. His work, and that of the Inspectors, appears to have been well done, and with the membership seconding their efforts, their prosperous state is assured :

“And from the answers received from the inspectors throughout the jurisdiction, I gleaned that the fraternity is in a more prosperous condition than it has been for several years prior to this. That the inspectors have generally visited the respective lodges of their districts at least once during the year, and have spent considerable time in instructing the same. That the work throughout the jurisdiction is generally fairly well done by the different lodges ; that the increase in membership has been satisfactory, and in some cases phenomenal, particularly with some of the lodges in San Francisco, *Mission* Lodge having conferred during the year more degrees than any lodge has ever done in the same length of time before. That the financial condition of the lodges throughout the jurisdiction is fair, many lodges owning considerable property and having a cash balance on the right side of the ledger. That the books of the various lodges are kept in accordance with the requirements of the Grand Lodge. That the lodges in the districts where the Grand Lecturer has held District Lodges of instruction were well represented. That the various lodges throughout the jurisdiction have endeavored to conform to the instructions given by the Grand Lecturer, and that there is an earnest desire to render the work in the most acceptable manner.

“The inspectors have pledged themselves to issue no certificates of qualification to Masters-elect at the end of this year who are not thoroughly qualified, both by their knowledge of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge and by their acquaintance with the ritual of our fraternity, to fill completely the requirements of the Grand Lodge.”

The following resolution was adopted :

“*Resolved*, That the mysteries of Freemasonry have, in all ages since the first organization of this ancient Order, been taught by tradition and committed only to the faithful breast, and that all suggestions or propositions looking to a change will be regarded as unmasonic and denied consideration in this Grand Lodge.”

A special committee was appointed to report a plan whereby the charity funds of the Grand Lodge may be more properly distributed.

It was decided that burial by cremation or otherwise, at the request of the deceased, could be performed with Masonic honors.

The loss of an eye is a disqualification.

A proposal looking to the establishment of a Supreme Grand Lodge of the United States for the purpose of securing uniformity of work was negatived.

The work was exemplified, but its adoption as author-

itative was postponed until the next session, and the following was passed :

“ *Resolved*, That a permanent committee of three members of this Grand Lodge be established to be called the Committee on Ritual, the members of which committee shall be the custodians and censors of the work, and on all questions appertaining to the ritual the decision of such committee shall be final and conclusive. The M. W. Grand Master shall appoint such committee and fill all vacancies occurring therein, and the members of such committee, when so appointed, shall hold their office during life or the pleasure of this Grand Lodge.”

“ *Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Grand Lodge that the permanent Committee on Ritual, to be appointed in accordance with a resolution passed this morning by this Grand Lodge, make no change in the ritualistic work of this jurisdiction.”

They have a lodge in Sandwich Islands, which is thus noted :

“ The records of Kilauea Lodge, located at Hilo, Island of Hawaii, Republic of Hawaii, deviate in many respects from the usual form of keeping lodge minutes. The brethren, however, are earnest and enthusiastic and are laboring well for the fraternity. The lodge has every prospect of becoming vigorous and useful. The first meeting under dispensation was held February 27, 1897. It has twenty members, has conferred thirteen degrees and has no debts.”

The per capita tax was reduced from 25 cents to 20 cents.

Bro. William A. Davies reports on Correspondence, and in his review of our Proceedings for 1896, he criticizes our “calling off,” and says that he can understand why Grand Lodge might have called off *from* labor, but why it called off *to* labor he does not comprehend. We may explain that our idea of “calling off” is simply that it is a Masonic expression for the adjournment of a tyled lodge, that a lodge may be adjourned or “called off” from being closely tyled to appear in public for some temporary purpose, it may be to lay a corner-stone, to conduct funeral services, or to partake of refreshment. It is mistaking the idea of the thing altogether to assume that when a lodge is called off it is necessarily and always at refreshment. Some of our Masonic labor is necessarily done in public, when it is impossible to have the lodge closely tyled. The lodge is not closed to perform this work ; it is temporarily adjourned or “called off,” to appear in public for that specific purpose and all brethren are cautioned to keep within hearing of the Master’s gavel. After the work is performed, the lodge returns to the lodge-room

and is "called on," and properly closed. It may be that a lodge is more frequently called off to partake of refreshment than to perform some Masonic labor, but that is no reason why it should be assumed that it is always at refreshment when it is called off.

In his review of Idaho, Bro. Davies has the following remarks on the voting powers of Past Masters in Grand Lodge. In Idaho, as with us, all Past Masters are permanent members of the Grand Lodge. In California, the Past Masters of each lodge have only one vote collectively, no matter what the number of Past Masters may be, instead of each one having a vote for himself:

"Very well for Idaho, Bro. Stevenson, in her present condition, but a dangerous policy for California or any other State having large cities with a corresponding Masonic population. To illustrate: in San Francisco we have sixteen lodges, who carry upon their rolls three hundred Past Masters; Oakland, across the bay, another hundred; Santa Clara, distant only two hours, another hundred. Give the five hundred brethren each a vote, and while the country lodges would be taken care of it might not be always to their taste. That same amendment divided the Grand Lodge of New York fifty years ago, and, after years of bitter recrimination, was healed in 1850. We were present at the wedding festivities. We think our present law giving the Past Masters collectively, of each lodge one vote, is the only safe method in the matter of ballot."

Lodges, 267; members, 18,808; increase, 600.

Thomas Flint Jr., (San Juan), G. M.

George Johnson (San Francisco), G. S.

COLORADO.

*"High Souls like those far stars that come in sight
Once in a century.*

37th Communication, Denver, Sept. 21, 1897.

The Grand Master, George W. Roe, was absent through illness, and the chair was taken by the Deputy, Cromwell Tucker.

The craft is in a fair state of prosperity and two new lodges were formed. The Grand Master decided that no representative to the Grand Lodge or Grand Lodge officer travelling on a pass is entitled to mileage. Correct, all the time. He also ruled that no lodge should affiliate or admit as a visitor, a Mason hailing from and made in any lodge chartered by the Gran Dieta of Mexico.

Bro. Henry M. Teller, P. G. M., gave a very interesting historical and reminiscent sketch of Masonry in the early days of Colorado.

On motion, a special committee was appointed to visit Bro. Adna A. Treat, who passed his 100th birthday several months ago. The visit was made and the venerable brother expressed his deep appreciation of the kindly remembrance.

In his review of our Proceedings of 1896 Bro. Lawrence N. Greenleaf expresses the opinion that a more thorough system of inspection than ours can not well be imagined. In his concluding remarks, he has the following.

"It is apparent that neither the Wisconsin relief proposition nor the Maine resolutions concerning rejected material will be adopted generally.

"Whatever our opinion as to the merits of these two propositions, the motive that inspired them was a move in the right direction—that of uniformity. If any institution should have settled laws and principles of action, it should be that of Masonry. Coming down to us from the remote past with the accretions of centuries of experience, and with a symbolism largely its own interpreter, we have permitted its original simplicity to become obscure until the present complex and contradictory system is the result, and every Grand Jurisdiction has become a law unto itself.

"While no objection might be urged against such supremacy in matters of minor or local importance, we maintain that the essential or basic laws and regulations of the Craft should be universal in their application. We therefore welcome any overtures on the part of Grand Lodges that look in this direction, until the desideratum shall be attained.

"Another matter to which reference is made in the present report, is the publication of the details in appeal cases, in Grand Lodge proceedings. It would not be courteous on our part to cite special instances; we therefore refer to the subject generally. Volumes, otherwise attractive, with addresses, orations and contents of an elevating and inspiring character, are marred by the publication of these disgusting records of human frailty, which are thus permanently preserved, and circulated far and near, at length to find an abiding place upon library shelves.

"Estimating the present membership of the fraternity on this continent at 800,000, the suspensions and expulsions in any year will not exceed 800. Are we not then justified in entering our protest against such undue publicity being giving to the wrong-doing of one in a thousand, as shown in the above statistics?"

Lodges 91; members, 7335; increase 78.

Cromwell Tucker (Denver), G. M.

E. C. Parmelee (Denver), G. S.

CONNECTICUT.

"Gravity is the ballast of the soul, which keeps the mind *steady*."

110th Communication. Hartford, January 19, 1898.

George A. Kies, G. M.

Their Masonic Home receives his cordial appreciation :

"Although my other engagements have prevented me from visiting the Masonic Home as frequently as I wished, I yield to none as regards my interest in it and my desire to see it placed upon a more secure financial footing and its facilities increased. If the brethren would more generally visit it, and if they could see the happy faces of the inmates when speaking of the refuge which is all that stands between most of them and the grudgingly bestowed charity of a cold world, I am sure they would be imbued with fresh enthusiasm for this noble work."

We also copy his remarks on the unnecessary publication of Masonic matters in the public press :

"The publishing in newspapers of matters which should not be mentioned outside of the lodge is a great and apparently growing evil. Even if any good could thereby be accomplished, and if the practice were not contrary to the letter and spirit of our obligations, it would still be one of doubtful propriety. But when we consider the fact that in most instances it can serve no purpose except to pander to a morbid craving for sensationalism and only brings our beloved Institution into disrepute, language fails to adequately express the contempt and detestation which should be felt for any Mason who, either directly or indirectly, aids and abets this usage. If any Masonic offender should be severely disciplined, it is certainly he who publishes lodge transactions to the world, especially when by so doing he airs soiled linen in public. There is another aspect to this question. Supposing that the items published may seem harmless in themselves, where shall the line be drawn? Discussion may follow, which would lead to further and further disclosure. The latter must soon reach a point which even the most thoughtless recognizes as one beyond which he cannot go without violating his vows. Thus the advantage of the argument is left with the adversary, and the value of 'those truly masonic virtues, silence and circumspection,' is again disastrously taught by experience."

The reports of all of the District Deputies show that, although some of the lodges are shouldering heavy burdens, owing in part to the commercial depression, almost all are earnestly striving to improve their condition and to faithfully perform their Masonic functions.

The following report was adopted :

"WHEREAS, The Grand Master of Masons in Peru has issued an edict 'that on all masonic altars the Bible shall be removed and replaced by the Constitution of the Order of Free Masonry, and and that in all rituals the word 'Bible' shall be stricken out and

the words, 'The constitution of the Grand Lodge of Peru' used in its place.

"WHEREAS, That in so doing he has removed the Great Light, one of the necessary constituents of every regular lodge, from the Altar of Freemasonry in violation of its ancient land marks.

"Resolved, That this Grand Lodge suspends Masonic intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Peru and requires the same of all lodges and masons in this jurisdiction during the continuance of said edict.

"Resolved, That a duly attested copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Grand Lodge of Peru.

"Resolved, That the commission of Brother Casimiro Medina as our representative near the Grand Lodge of Peru be revoked.

The per capita tax was fixed at \$1, of which 75 per cent is to go to the Charity Foundation Fund. In estimating their membership, the lodges are allowed to deduct all members who have been Masons for 30 years and also all those whose whereabouts have not been known for five years previous.

Bro. John H. Barlow presented his annual report on Correspondence with well selected extracts and comments of marked ability. Our Proceedings for 1897 receive fraternal mention. His work was done under sore bereavement, the death of his only son, who but a few months before had completed his college and legal course and had commenced the practice of his chosen profession. We extend to Bro. Barlow our sincere sympathy.

Lodges, 109; members 17,053; increase 258.

Frank W. Havens (Hartford), G. M.

John H. Barlow (Hartford), G. S.

DELAWARE.

"I must have *Liberty*,
Withal as large a charter as the wind
To blow on whom I please."

91st communication, Wilmington, Oct. 6th, 1897.

J. Paul Lukens, G. M.

The year has been one of many blessings and no dire calamities visited their jurisdiction. The Grand Master attended all the lodges. He found them enjoying delightful homes and doing good work.

On the Home subject, the following report was adopted:

"Your Committee to Consider the Formation of a Home for Old and Indigent Masons respectfully report that they deem it inexpedient for this Grand Lodge to undertake this enterprise, as the expense would be greater than we are able to bear, owing to

our limited number and resources. There are at present two Masons in the Minquadale Home, and we have no doubt but that we can arrange in cases of necessity, to continue to use that Institution. We would recommend the appropriation of one hundred dollars for the use of the Minquadale Home, and the continuance of the committee to have supervision of anything in connection with the matter that may need attention."

The report on Correspondence is again by Bro. L. H. Jackson, whose point of view we are free to commend, as it most frequently agrees with our own. In his notice of Maine, we find him on our side as to public installations :

" Bro. Drummond quotes freely from our review of correspondence and without adverse comment, except that in one instance, concerning public installations, he seems not to appreciate our objection to the difference between the performance of Masonic functions before the public which *must necessarily* be so done (such as funeral services and laying of corner-stones), and that which *need not* be so done the public installation of Lodge Officers. We cannot conceive the propriety of deliberately *inviting* and *admitting* the public to Lodge room to participate in a Masonic function. However, we long ago 'agreed to disagree' on that subject.

His review of Canada for 1896 is courteous and appreciative. In his conclusion, he has the following on Mexico :

" We have received several pamphlets on "Masonry in Mexico," with a lot of other literature upon the subject which we have carefully read, but this writer must still hesitate to encourage the thought of recognition. The difficulties in the way are too great, and it is hard to see how they can be overcome, unless some method of regeneration is advised.

" Masons have been professedly made on the Book of Constitutions instead of the Holy Bible, the Great Light of Masonry; women have been initiated and made members of Lodges, and not only so, but Charters granted to organize women's lodges, ruled and governed by women, for the conferring of the Degrees of Masonry. These facts are admitted by one, at least, of the greatest champions of Mexican Masonry, and we believe them undeniable.

" It is asserted that the Grand Dieta of Mexico has since professed to exclude the women of its lodges, and to annul the charters of all female lodges, but the mischief is done, it can never be repaired. The Masonry imparted can never be recalled.

" Our conclusions on this whole subject are that the so-called Mexican Lodges are irregular and unlawful, not only because of their origin from Supreme Councils of the A. & A. S. R., but also because of the absence of the Holy Bible, the Great Light of Masonry, and the substitution of the Book of Constitutions, which is not the Sacred Book of the Law of any race or nation. For it 'A lawful lodge is constituted by a certain number of brethren, duly assembled, having the Holy Bible, etc.' does not its absence or disuse render such an assembly unlawful ?

"All the lodges now existing in Mexico are derived from the Supreme Councils of the A. & A. S. R., and should not be recognized as a lawful basis for a legitimate Grand Lodge.

"The Grand Dieta, as in fact a Grand Lodge over Grand Lodges is a body entirely unrecognized by the Ancient Constitutions of Free Masonry, and foreign to all the precedents of the Institution.

§"For these reasons we deem the Grand Dieta and the Masonry of Mexico entirely unworthy of recognition by legitimate Grand Lodges, being utterly false to the traditions of Ancient Craft Masonry.

Lodges, 21; members, 2,126; increase, 49.

James E. Dutton (Seaford), G. M.

Benjamin F. Bartram (Wilmington), G. S.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Justitia omnibus.

"Use every man after his desert and who should
'scape whipping."

87th Communication, Washington, Nov. 10, 1897.

Matthew Trimble, G. M.

Each visitation was a source of great pleasure. The musical and literary entertainments furnished on these occasions were of a high order of excellence. Great activity is being manifested in connection with the proposed new Masonic Temple.

The Grand Lecturer reports good work and well attended meetings.

The following amendments to the Constitution were adopted:

"Nor shall the petition for initiation of any candidate who has been rejected by another lodge be received until one year after such rejection has expired, and if such rejection has occurred within five years of the date of said petition it shall be received only by consent of two-thirds of the members present of the lodge which rejected him, if it be in existence."

Amend Section 9, Article XX, by striking out the words "shall be effectual until withdrawn, or so long as the brother objecting remains a member of the lodge," and insert "and if the objection is not withdrawn within six months, it shall have the same effect as a black ball at the time the ballot was taken upon the petition of the one in whose case the objection made."

Bro. W. R. Singleton presented his 28th report on Correspondence, reviewing 56 Grand Lodges in his usual able manner. His remarks on the recognition of foreign Grand bodies are instructive and interesting:

"Personally, we have come to the conclusion, at last, that in the

recognition of Masonic bodies with which a Grand Lodge wishes to enter into fraternal official relations by exchange of Grand Representatives, there should be such equality in the Constitutions of these bodies that a visitor from either to the other may be admitted to all the rights and privileges of a member thereof.

"It is true that years since, when our lamented brother, Grand Master Benjamin B. French, re-introduced the Grand Representative system into our Grand Lodge, several Grand Orients were invited to fraternal intercourse and official relations with us by exchange of Grand Representatives; and we have continued such relations up to the present time with those bodies on our list of Grand Representatives. We, however, have not found that it has by any means proved of any special advantage to either party—*experto crede* (believe one who has experience to justify his opinions).

"Should a member, or even one of our Grand or Past Grand Officers, visit a Grand Orient in session, unless the visitor be so fortunate as to have received the degrees of A. A. S. R., he could not be present in said Grand Orient except in the "symbolic degrees," and he must be a thirty-third degree Mason to enjoy all the privileges of the body.

"Within recent years (about fourteen) the Masons of Mexico and Peru, by the advice of Bro. Albert Pike, separated the "symbolic degrees," so called, to distinguish the lodges of the first three degrees from the Scottish Rite degrees of the Supreme Councils and Orients, and these lodges united and organized Grand Lodges and were in accord with the system of all the English-speaking peoples. The Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia at once recognized all of the Grand Lodges of Mexico, viz., Federal District, Hidalgo, Jacob de Molay, Jalisco, Lower California, Morelas, Oaxaca, Vera Cruz, Vincente Guerrero. The present writer is the Grand Representative of all these except Oaxaca, whose representative, Bro. Past Grand Master Thomas P. Chiffelle, is deceased.

"We do not know, officially, how many of the above have united with the 'Gran Dieta' as we have not received a single communication from any one of these Grand Lodges for many years. We have continued their names upon our list of Grand Representatives in our annual proceedings and that is all we know of them.

"The same may be said of Peru, except that very recently a letter has been received from the present Grand Master of Peru to our own Grand Master announcing his election and with a new Grand Secretary.

"Since the death of our lamented Bro. Longly, who represented the Grand Lodge of Peru, our present Grand Master recommended Past Grand Master George W. Baird, as his successor.

"A few of our Grand Lodges in the United States have abandoned the Grand Representative system. Now, if with the system *intact* our Grand Lodge has had no official communications with Mexico and Peru, what would be our relative conditions if we should, so far as they are concerned, withdraw our representatives each from the other?

"The times are changed and we are changed with them."

"Men change with fortune, manners change with climes,
Tenets with books, and principles with times."

"We were in full accord with both Bro. Pike and Bro. French in their ideas of the universality of Masonry and a proper recognition of all the regular bodies of all the rites scattered over 'both hemispheres,' and we have by no means changed our views in that respect. Nevertheless, we have many reasons, from experience, to doubt the expediency of a Grand Lodge entering into official relations with any other body of Masons differing so essentially in many very important particulars as do the Grand Orients from us. When we, as a Grand Lodge, acknowledged and recognized the Grand Lodges in the United State of Mexico as bodies of Master Masons of an independent character, equal in all respects to our own Grand Lodge, there was no expectation that they would subsequently enter into a connection such as the Gran Dieta, consequently, such of these Grand Lodges as have become members of the Gran Dieta, should be erased from our list of correspondents, if we can oust those which are thus circumstanced.

"It has been the settled principle with nearly all of the Grand Lodges in the United States that they will remain as independent bodies, and have several times refused to enter into a league or union by any other name, whereby a general grand body of all the Grand Lodges should become the supreme governing body of the rite. How then can any one of such Grand Lodges recognize and enter into official relations with the Gran Dieta of Mexico, which accomplishes the very purpose for that country which they declined doing in our own?"

"Oh, consistency, thou art a jewel!"

They have not been asked for recognition by the Gran Dieta of Mexico as yet. They will "cross that bridge when they get to it."

Lodges, 25; members, 5,144; increase, 25.

Samuel C. Palmer (Washington), G. M.

William R. Singleton (Washington), G. S.

FLORIDA.

"She wore a wreath of roses."

69th Communication, Jacksonville, January 18, 1898.

James M. Hilliard, G. M.

He reports two new lodges. He made a number of official visitations with much benefit to the Craft, but he found some very deficient in the work, and suggests a system of District Conventions, meeting quarterly, which was endorsed by the Grand Lodge.

The following report was adopted:

"Your committee recommend that Regulation No. 269 be amended so as to require the minutes of all communications to be read for correction and approval before the closing of the lodge, and read for final adoption at the next regular communication.

"Your committee recommend that Regulation No. 191 on funerals be amended to read as follows: 'The funeral services, when

performed, should take place at the time of the interment or at an early day thereafter: but when it is omitted on account of unfavorable circumstances, a Lodge of Sorrow may be held by the bereaved lodge in its lodge-room.'"

The Masonic Herald, published at Rome, Georgia, and the Fraternal Record, published at Jacksonville, were commended to the fraternity by the Grand Lodge as worthy of their support.

The great storm of 1896, which laid waste and brought destruction to so many homes, destroyed every lodge-room in District No. 7, except one. Still, many have rebuilt, and all are at work.

Lodges, 152; members, 4,317; decrease, 58.

James M. Hilliard (Pensacola), G. M.

Wilber P. Webster (Jacksonville), G. S.

GEORGIA.

"He'd prove a *buzzard* is no fowl,
And that a lord may be an owl."

111th communication, Macon, Oct. 26, 1897.

James W. Taylor, G. M.

They have sustained a severe loss in the death of their Grand Secretary, Bro. Andrew M. Wolihin. "Grand and noble was his life, and his brethren will ever remember him as the embodiment of all the virtues that go to make a good man and Mason.

The Grand Master utilized his time in visiting the lodges that he thought needed help. He reports the entire craft in a flourishing condition and great devotion to the cause prevailing, especially in the rural districts. His concluding remarks are well worthy of attention:

"Remember, brethren, that this grand and noble enterprise calls for united effort. Superstition, vice, ignorance and immorality must be dethroned, and on their ruins science, intelligence and morality must be built, and we, as Masons have our part to perform in this great drama of life, and must keep pace with the demands and progress of the times. We cannot be content to live for ourselves alone. He that does prove a failure, and is trespassing upon the opportunities of life and monopolizing time given him for other purposes, and when he goes hence the world will be no better by his having lived in it, and the only record left upon the great tressel-board of life will be that he lived beneath his privilege.

"A good many men become discouraged at what seem to them failures, and while success is not developed immediately, fail to discharge their duty. One of the greatest studies of mankind is the failures of mankind. It will be found after proper investiga-

tion that many seeming failures, if properly placed on their merits will develop as a success, and many successes when properly examined are but the development of what seemed at first a failure, hence a proper discharge of duty will certainly be fraught with good results to some one at some time.

“Joshua led Israel into Canaan and conducted a long series of victories, which have become immortal in the annals of war, but Moses, who died unattended amid the solitude of Nebo, was a more important factor in Israel's mighty success and grand achievements than Joshua and Caleb combined. Hence the duty of Masons is to continue to strive for the mastery over self and selfish ends, though success does not seemingly attend their efforts.

“It is a sad commentary upon the life of a rational intelligent being created in the image of the Maker to exhaust his probation on earth, enjoy the pleasures and opportunities of life designed for improvement and enjoyment, living to a good old age with all the light of progress before him, and take no step or make no effort to ameliorate the condition of his fellow men, living as a drone in the great hive of industry and perseverance or as a beetle sustained by sapping the very vitals of society and giving nothing in return, a conscience callous to all impressions for good, no generous impulse ever throbbing within his heart, sensibilities all ossified by selfish thoughts and indulgences, never contributing one moment of time in trying to relieve the distresses of his fellowmen and at last passing away unmourned and unwept.

“As Masons we are taught to live in a different life. We have time and opportunity for meditation, and the worship of Israel's God. Time to bestow in relieving the distresses of a brother, time for our usual vocations, and the Mason that does not utilize this time profitably is unworthy the high calling and should renounce the cause and get out of the way, for his presence in our assemblies is but a clog to the advancement of all the virtues taught in our order. We are to live for those who come after us. Some one lived and acted for us. Can we not live and act for those that are to come and take our places when we shall have served our time and gone hence.

“Generations unborn are to profit by our having lived, and the example we leave will tend to either elevate or lower the standard of moral character and integrity of those that come after us.

“Life is but a book given to us at birth, filled up with pure white pages without spot or blemish in which to record our every act, and as the days come and go the pages are turned and the book closed, and whatsoever is inscribed therein will stand unrevealed until eternity discloses it, and if defaced by any blot of unfaithfulness, it cannot be recalled. How cautious then should be every act of ours that is recorded in this book of life whose pages are exposed as recorded to the scrutiny of the world.

“Brethren arouse from your lethargy if any possess you. The battle of life is on and no laggards are wanted. Every Mason is expected to do his whole duty in this great struggle.

“Buckle on the armour of brotherly love, Faith, Hope and Charity, and go forth to the rescue, redeem your fellowmen from vice, ignorance, crime and dissipation, and elevate him by virtuous example to the position for which God created him, and when life's cares are over, and you are gathered to your fathers the

world will be better by your having lived in it, and you will have filled the mission for which you were sent."

Trouble is looming up with the State authorities on the subject of taxation. It has always been supposed that as the Masonic lodges expended their entire income in benevolent and charitable purposes, they were exempt from taxation, but in consequence of a decision of their Supreme Court, it seems that the Comptroller General of the State had issued orders to the various tax collectors to demand payment of taxes from all the lodges in the State for the past twenty years. The State Assembly is to be memorialized on the subject.

The Grand Lodge declined to be committed to the doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction over rejected candidates.

A proposal to abolish the system of Grand Representatives was negatived.

Bro. W. E. Ramsay presented his eleventh report on Correspondence, well written and very interesting and instructive.

Lodges, 420; members, 18,183; increase, \$66.

James W. Taylor (Luthersville), G. M.

W. A. Wolihin (Macon), G. S.

IDAHO.

Salve!

"See the mountains kiss-high heaven!"

30th Communication, Boise, Sept. 14, 1897.

Fred. G. Mock, G. M.

The Grand Master visited all the lodges, devoting the greater part of the time to holding schools of instructions and examining the records. With very few exceptions he found everything regular. All seemed willing to learn, but many neglect to continue the practice after the instructor leaves them. On the attendance he says:

"Many of the lodges have had but little work during the past year, and in consequence the attendance has been small—merely a quorum—and many regular communications have passed without having a meeting. When asked why the attendance has been so small the Master invariably replies: 'There was nothing to come for; we had no work, and the brethren are not as zealous as they were in former times.' This is to be deeply regretted. Brethren, search after the truth; search out the hidden mysteries by reading and study and you will profit far more than you would by witnessing the conferring of a degree. The truths of Masonry are as rare as the most priceless gem; and when not occupied in work we should be rehearsing the works of some writer who has

gone far beneath the surface and brought forth treasures which should be stored in our minds. Because the practice of Masonic teachings is so neglected is no reason why we should believe they have no existence. A crust can hide all the glory and sparkle of a diamond; the clouds shut out the sun's bright rays; the beautiful lessons of our order remain hidden, but remove the crust, watch the light as the clouds roll by, draw aside the curtain, and the beauties of Masonry will be seen in all its practical workings."

The indignation against non-affiliates has reached its boiling point in Idaho. They propose to expel every Mason in the State who does not join a lodge within six-months. What benefit they expect to derive from unwilling members it is hard to conceive. Our idea would be that the institution is better off without them. The following are the resolutions referred to:

"*Resolved*, That it is the duty of every Mason residing within the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge to be a member of some Masonic lodge, either within or without the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge.

"*Resolved*, That every Mason residing within the jurisdiction holding a dimit shall, within six months from this date, present his petition for membership in some lodge within this jurisdiction, and on failure so to do, or to pay dues according to the by-laws of the lodge nearest his residence, the Master of the lodge within whose jurisdiction such offending brother, if known, resides shall order the Junior Warden of his lodge to prefer charges against such unaffiliated brother of unmasonic conduct in not presenting his petition for membership, and such proceedings shall be had as provided for in trials for unmasonic conduct, and if no sufficient excuse shall be shown for such failure to affiliate, and the offending brother be found guilty, he shall be expelled from the order."

A proposal to reduce the fees for degrees from \$50 to \$35 was lost.

New Zealand was recognized and Mexico refused recognition.

The Grand Secretary reports on Correspondence and reviews our proceedings of 1896.

Lodges, 29; members, 1175; increase, 23.

George M. Waterhouse (Weiser), G. M.

Charles C. Stevenson (Boise), G. S.

ILLINOIS.

"And ever the far spreading prairies,
Covered with grass and corn."

58th Communication, Chicago, Oct. 5, 1897.

Owen Scott, G. M.

He reports five new lodges. The District meetings

were very successful and the direct advantages from these gatherings were plainly visible. "Renewed zeal and greater knowledge of law and work have led to higher conceptions of the fraternity and better standards for the future." Their methods of instruction are thus stated :

"Progress has been made during the past year in teaching the standard work. The five schools have been largely attended. The zeal of the Craft has been unabated. The humblest brother aspires to great proficiency in the work. Nearer approach is made year by year towards a perfect uniformity in work among the lodges in Illinois. Few states can show such excellent results from any system of instruction as those which follow our superior system of schools. One was held in Chicago. It has been difficult heretofore to make a school in Chicago successful, owing to the great numbers which have over-crowded the largest halls. To avoid this the Chicago school was divided into three, one in each division of the city. R. W. Bro. C. F. Tenney was added to the board and this gave two members to each of the divisions. Added to these was a sufficient number of Deputy Grand Lecturers to make the number of permanent workers five at each place. Practically there were three schools held in Chicago as each continued three full days. Though somewhat of an experiment, the almost unanimous verdict was that the Chicago school was a great success and of incalculable benefit to the lodges of the city and Cook county.

"It is fitting here to acknowledge that much of the success is due R. W. Bro. Edward Cook, the three Chicago District Deputy Grand Masters, and the many Deputy Grand Lecturers both in and out of the city. Many of these came from far away points at their own expense and contributed freely their services. In all the schools the plan of discussing law and usage was continued during about two hours of one day at each place. I was present at all the schools and am confirmed in the opinion that they are of inestimable value to Masonry in Illinois.

The conspicuous success of the Grand Master's administration is shown by the prevalence of entire harmony and growing prosperity throughout the jurisdiction. The Grand Lodge decided that it would be unwise to recommend to constituent lodges the adoption of any form or system of life membership.

The committee on Correspondence made a verbal report on the recognition of the Grand Lodge of Egypt and asked for further time, which was granted.

The address of the Grand Orator, Bro. William E. Mason is a most excellent production and we give it entire. He took for his subject, "The Evolution of a Nation.":

"The first nation was formed by cells arranged so as to best protect themselves against the elements. It was a daring and tragic struggle made by nature to create a tadpole. During that

struggle one dauntless microbe set sail, without boat or pilot, across an untried drop of water, returned in safety to his friends, and was ever after spoken of in microbic literature as a 'moral Columbus.' It was a long stride from the first nation (the collection of cells) to the creation of other nations, such as a swarm of bees, a school of fish, and a band of our interesting friends, the monkey. It was also a long stride from those nations to the tribes of the uncivilized man, in forest and desert, but a greater stride has Dame Nature made in reaching the present so-called civilized nations, the best of which we believe to be our own United States of America.

"I have spoken of the monkey as an 'interesting friend.' He is the very first parliamentarian, so far as I can learn. For centuries they have met in the forests and taken their turn in expressing their views. They may never have ascended (or descended) to the silver question, or the tariff, but they have listened attentively to the speaker and duly applauded him when finished. Whether the applause was for what he said or because he quit we have no means of knowing. We have heard men say that the monkey imitated the man. This is said by man in a spirit of self-complacency, if not conceit. What monkey was it that visited the house of lords, in the United States or elsewhere, and took back to his home the rules of parliamentary law and practice? The monkeys indulged in this 'parleying' or talking with each other (and parliament means talking) before the kings allowed the parliament. Mother Nature, when toying with the wheels of evolution, never turns them backward, and if there is any imitating I fear we, and not the monkey, are the guilty ones.

"Man was the first and only animal to use a weapon. Holding a stick or branch in his front foot one day to assist him to stand, that he might see his enemy better and at a greater distance, he was suddenly attacked, and used his club in his front foot to brain his enemy. The constant use of the foot changed it to a hand. The club was the first weapon, and it set the pace for civilization from that day to this. Today, Japan eats the bread earned in the sweat of China's face, because she has the best club—the latest and improved methods for killing. England maintains her historic consistency by using her club on great states like Guatemala. The poor insurgents of Cuba may have liberty from the yoke of Spain, if the club of Spain is not too strong. Not one question is raised of right, equity, and liberty; simply who can kill most; and we, the greatest and best, as we claim, nation in the world, with the other Christian and civilized nations, render no encouragement to the divine right of self-government, enunciated in our Declaration of Independence more than one hundred years ago. It may well be remarked in passing that Spain and England, as well as America, are dotted with churches, with countless spires dedicated to the worship of the Nazarine who taught nearly nineteen hundred years ago equal rights, 'peace on earth, and good will towards men.'

"This may be a digression, but its observation may keep down our American vanity, and compel us to admit that there is room for a few more turns of the wheel in the evolution of a nation.

"When the animal man first cudged the brains out of his enemy, or choked him to death with his front foot, the family and

friends of his enemy came next day for revenge, or for the fruit and nuts of the battlefield. The animal man and his family and friends were prepared for them, and thus began the organization of nations for mutual self-defence; then began the art, the science, the cruelty of war. If nations began in war, they but imitated their component parts—that is to say, mankind—for has not man, the creature of nature, been at war with nature since its birth? Yes, truly, and that in imitation of his friends, the other animals, and they in turn in imitation of the vegetable kingdom. The plant will selfishly struggle for the last drop of water and never bow its head to give air or sunshine to its neighbor. The cells began feeding upon each other; the fishes of the sea and the fowls of the air devour their smaller brethren. The microbe of smallpox has its enemy, and we have found him. We set him to watch the citadel of artery and vein to kill the smallpox microbe as he comes in, or devour his pasture lands, that he may starve before he fairly sets up housekeeping in the blood.

“Men live upon the necessities of their neighbors, and nations war with each other demanding money to settle an insult. They struggle, bluster, and brag of their merits, and seek to get the best of each other in trade and commerce. Evolution is war. The flower fights and conquers the frost in the spring, and in turn dies by the hand it had conquered. The mighty rock rears its head in the ocean, and its fight with nature begins. Heat expands and cold contracts it, the waves beat against it, the clouds wet it and the sun dries it, and in the very war of the elements it goes down again to the sand from whence it came, but only to sleep till the passing centuries bid it again to lift its giant head and once again do battle for life.

“And so Madam Nature seems to set us all by the ears, from the microbe to the nation of men, as though she was quietly enjoying a game of solitaire, which we call ‘the survival of the fittest.’

“This shadow is not, however, all of the picture. Plants and trees sometimes help each other. The cells marry and are given in marriage, and some of the toilers of the sea are born and christened, marry and bless their children and their grandchildren, and pass on, within the rising and the setting of the sun, yet while living have helped to build forts to protect the small from the great. The bee is postman for lovesick flowers, and, unwittingly perhaps, trades his service for honey he has stolen but which he thinks is his. So the bee and the flower are useful to each other. Mankind, sometime in the early dawn, heard the whispered word ‘duty,’ and began to learn its meaning by bearing each others burdens, by learning to meet, act, and part upon the square, and the word has sounded louder until nations have bent a willing ear and are seeking to prove that peace and good will, fair trade and commerce, the keeping of treaties with each other, is to be the ultimate conduct among the nations of the world.

“A brief review of the past, to safely judge of the future, and an ambition to add my small intellectual microbe hastening the day of keeping all international agreements, the abandonment of war, the establishment of international arbitration is my only excuse for my use of the subject, ‘The Evolution of a Nation.’

“The abandonment of war cannot come in a day, nor can we at once disband our army and navy, but by proper consideration we can hasten the day when a civilized nation will maintain its army and navy only to defend itself against barbarism, and settle all international disputes as we did the Behring sea controversy—by international arbitration. Every European nation to-day has more than double the army and navy it needs to defend its own people and its own territory, each one anxious to levy tribute on a weaker nation and have the so-called glory of floating its flag over political serfs. We have many good and loyal citizens who talk about extending our territory and annexing this country and that. For my part I believe that to acquire territory by war is barbarism. To acquire it by diplomacy is larceny. I would never set this flag over any other nation except by the consent and wish of the people of that nation, and then not to levy tribute, but simply to help them to the glories and responsibilities of self-government. I believe our government ought, in every way, help plant the flag of self-government, especially on this continent. We ought to encourage Hawaii to govern itself. We ought in every possible way recognize the right of the Cuban insurgent, so-called, to float his own flag over his own island, not to help the United States, but because it is in line with God’s plan in the evolution of nations.

“If the American conscience could speak to-day, the voice would resound around the world, and compel Spain to listen to the voice of reason—the voice of liberty. The success of the Spanish army means the delay of liberty and the storing up of the day of wrath. The success of the home-rule army of Cuba means another flag set in the sky dedicated to self-government and human liberty.

“We are constantly told that the Cuban has no government. No state house and no laws. Well, what had Washington at Valley Forge? Our fraternal brethren met in the open air, the sound of the gavel in the east may be made on stump or stone. The tylers may be numberless as the trees; they may be ragged and sore about the altar, but they are our brothers just the same. They may have no capitol building, but if they meet in the open field or forest with only God and the stars to cover them, I am for that government just the same.

“Mr. Lincoln said that no man had a right to govern another man without that man’s consent. It is also true that no nation has the right to govern another without that nation’s consent. Yet we sit on our peaceful soil while the great nations are murdering the citizens of the weaker nations, and look each other in the face and say: ‘Am I my brother’s keeper?’

“You ask: Are you teaching the Munroe Doctrine? I answer: Yes, and more. This is the natural evolution of the Monroe Doctrine, and as we evolve better nations and better laws we must evolve better international law. My thought is addressed to the conscience. You ask: What can conscience do? I reply that it has and can do all things. Conscience signed the Magna Charta. Conscience signed the Declaration of Independence. Conscience preserved the Union and tore down the slave pen and whipping post. Conscience bore the flag up the storm-swept heights of Lookout Mountain. Conscience freed a million slaves and con-

science will make them equal before the law. Conscience will sometime, in the evolution of time and nations, do away with war, and real glory will be found in the paths of peace, and we will catch the true meaning of Him who said 'Peace on earth, good will to men.'

"The evolution of a nation depends upon the evolution of the men, women, and children who make the nation. The nation, to be free, must allow its citizens freedom. The citizen, to be free, must allow his neighbor freedom. 'Tis the law of liberty, as it is the law of love, the more you give the more you have. If you, by prejudice, restrain your neighbor of his right of conscience, both you and your neighbor are slaves to your prejudice, and when you overcome your prejudice you and your neighbor are both free. Our dear, bigoted, brave narrow old forefathers came here to find freedom to worship God, and soon began to make kindling wood of those who asked the same thing for themselves. They were slaves to bigotry and prejudice. For one hundred years, with this dear old flag above us, we sang 'This is the land of the free,' and sold our black men, and women, and children to the highest and best bidder for cash. We were slaves to avarice—greed for gold. No picture could be painted of our commonwealth in which the slave pen and whipping post did not rear its head. The music of this Union was discordant with the plaintive song of the slave. Columbia ruined her fair form stooping to hold the black man in the dust; and when Lincoln struck the shackles from a million slaves they also fell from your arm and mine. And here I make a plea for personal liberty, wishing only to impress this thought: That you receive the broadest liberty by giving it to others, and as home is the foundation of the nation, the better and freer the home, the better and freer the nation.

"Give your wife the liberty she is entitled to. I have known men to give their name to a woman—make her the mistress of his heart and home—and then be afraid to trust her with his pocket-book. Where are the \$2 you had Christmas? I know one man who successfully managed a big real estate deal, and went home at night and quarreled with his wife about where the bureau should stand, and the hanging of a picture. She is home twenty-four hours a day, let her run the house, and as for the business, let her at least imagine she is running that, it pleases her and does not hurt you. Do not forget when you popped and was afraid she would say 'no.' Do not forget the vow at the altar, to love, honor and cherish, which means to give her the liberty of being happy.

"Give your children liberty. No room in the house ought to be too good for the children. Saving the best room for occasional use for a stranger, is barbarism. I have heard men tell how much such boy and girl has cost them in money for education, etc., as though it were a business or financial investment instead of laying character corner-stones for time and eternity. They will not loaf around saloons if home is interesting and happy. Don't slave yourself to let them know that as soon as you go to your grave they will be provided for. Teach them to be self-sustaining. Tell them how sweet is the bread of independence. Give them good minds and bodies. Prepare them for the conflict, and then set them down in the highway of life and say: 'My boy, my girl,

there is the path ; be industrious, be honest, and under this flag there is no door worthy of entering that will not open to you if you are worthy to enter.

“ Give your parents liberty. Think what your duty is, and let the twilight of their lives be bright with your tender care.

“ Give the baby the liberty due him. The baby is a wellspring of pleasure, whether at home or ragged and dirty on the street.

“ Give your neighbor the liberty due him. When you begin to respect your neighbor for his true worth, regardless of whether he agrees with you in politics or religion, you have begun to live up to the true religion of the American citizen. The grand evidence of civilization to-day is not in the telegraph or the railroad, nor is it the wealth or the strength of the nation, but in the schools and churches that cover our land ; the institutions of charity all about us ; the fraternal societies for mutual and not selfish benefit, and particularly our own beloved order, that, amidst the rise and fall of nations, the uprising and crumbling of the dynasties of the past, it has continued to teach loyalty to home, loyalty to country, and to God.”

In his review of Colorado, Bro. Joseph Robbins has the following :

“ The difference between us in this matter is a radical one, Bro. Greenleaf contending ‘ that !Masonry was ‘ a perfect system at the start, ’ indeed more perfect than today, while we have no doubt that like every other human institution it is an example of evolution from the simple to the more complex. If, as Bro. Condor says, there was a lodge of Free Masons working and holding secrets apart from the bulk of the members of the Masons Company a century or so before 1717, it does not show that degrees as now known in Masonry were known at that time. We know of no Masonic writers who claim that the Masonic esotery was first formulated in 1717. While there are many who believe that up to that time the ceremony of ‘ making ’ contained all the esotery that then existed, and others, like Bro. G. W. Speth, who believe that two degrees existed long prior to that time, and that these two degrees contained all the esoteric knowledge of the present three. Bro. Greenleaf assumes that the reasonableness of the supposition that the lodge of 1631 was in possession of the esotery which has descended to us, must, if admitted, establish the antiquity of Masonry as set forth in its traditions ; but if it were a known fact instead of a reasonable supposition it would prove nothing as to the truth of traditions which refer to a period some thousands of years earlier as the date when Freemasonry first existed among men : The first known date of the existence of a lodge might be set back several more centuries before it would bear with any appreciable weight upon the antiquity of Masonry as set forth in its traditions.”

Canada for 1896 receives due attention, and a well-deserved compliment is paid to our District Deputies.

Bro. Robbins thinks that the final dissolution of the Gran Dieta of Mexico is imminent.

Lodges, 725 ; members, 53,285 ; increase, 776.

Edward Cook (Chicago), G. M.
J. H. C. Dill (Bloomington), G. S.

INDIANA.

There is but one Hoosier State. "Can one desire
too much of a good thing?" *Don Quixote.*

76th Communication, Indianapolis, May 25, 1897.

Simon P. Gillett, G. M.

Masonry in Indiana is prosperous, although their appears to be more than the usual number of differences among the lodges. The Grand Master mentions about fifteen complaints. He issued dispensations for four new lodges. He declined to approve a by-law declaring non-proficiency on the part of officers a Masonic offence punishable by removal from office by order of the Master. We quote as follows:

"The Christian Church at Fort Wayne, the corner-stone of which was laid by Past Grand Master O'Rouke, desiring to put in a stained glass window in which the design used should be the 'Three Great Lights of Masonry,' I was asked if there was any objection.

"I replied that I saw no objection; on the contrary, I considered it a beautiful expression of their respect for the fraternity, and the recognition of the intimate relationship, or nearness of the Church and Masonry.

"I authorized the Lodge at Fort Wayne to grant the request."

The following report was adopted:

"Your Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom was referred that portion of the M. W. Grand Master's address wherein he condemns the use of cipher texts of the work, and forcibly reproves the open use of books while the degrees are being conferred, most earnestly endorse his censures of all persons engaging in such unlawful and disreputable proceedings. Your Committee sincerely hope that this righteous condemnation of such unworthy practices, will bring about a reformation in this respect, and we trust that these expressions of condemnation will be heeded throughout our Grand Jurisdiction, so that no repetitions of these offences may render it necessary to make them the subject of future penal legislation."

On the use of Masonic terms in business, the following resolution was adopted:

"Whereas, Individuals, associations and others are now using the words 'Mason' and 'Masonic' and Masonic emblems as designations for the advancement of their business and personal gains; therefore,

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge disapproves of all such methods and schemes, and hereafter it shall be deemed a Masonic

offence for any Mason or Masonic organization to use such words or methods to further their business."

It was decided that in opening and closing the lodge the knocks should begin in the south. This was done on the authority of Rob. Morris' *Mnemonics* of the Webb-Preston work.

P. G. M. Daniel McDonald was appointed Historian, to write a history of Freemasonry in Indiana.

The Grand Lodge dues were reduced to 25 cents per capita and \$1 for each initiation, but a proposal to reduce the minimum fee for the degrees was negatived, as it was thought that Masonry was cheap enough already.

New Zealand was recognized.

The status of the members of a suspended lodge during the period of suspension was declared to be that of Master Masons in good standing. At that rate, the suspension of a lodge is no punishment at all.

The report on Correspondence by Bro. Nicholas R. Ruckle covers 158 pages, and is an excellent paper. On the Iowa relief proposal, he says :

"This proposition, like that from Wisconsin, is charity grown wild. No one, as an individual or as a Mason, as a lodge or as an association of lodges, has the right to incur for any person or Mason, or society of Masons, any indebtedness or obligation to pay, be it great or small, without obtaining explicit consent, however meritorious the object or however great and sublime the benevolence. If it is demanded that Masons shall be entitled to relief at the expense of their particular lodges, at the option of other lodges or persons, it will necessitate the raising of the fees and the annual dues to an amount that will pay annuities and pensions. Very few of the lodges in the country, or in the smaller towns, assess annual dues to exceed the sum of the actual expenses year by year. In cases of distress brethren are provided for by the personal aid and assistance of their fellows. The members expect to profit only by Masonic fellowship and brotherly love in their daily walks. And nowhere are the bonds of Masonry stronger and brighter than in the better class of the small lodges. When a member of such a lodge becomes sick or distressed away from home, the lodge has no funds from which to repay the amount expended for the relief of the brother.

"If Masonry is to resolve itself into an accumulation of immense Grand Lodge Charity Funds, then there must be paid at initiations, such equitable sums, as will, with the accumulations, be sufficient to provide relief for all members who may apply. This will be indeed a great benevolent institution, with all the abuses and all the benefits that grow from great charities, but it will not be the Masonry of the Ancient Landmarks."

We are with him on the right to dimit :

"We believe the right of dimission should be absolutely unre

stricted. Why should members who have grown out of sympathy with the institution be forced to remain in it? Do such members benefit the lodge in any way? They are not of it, even if membership be retained."

Canada for 1898 has a favorable notice.

Lodges, 488; members, 29,387; increase, 948.

Mason J. Niblack (Vincennes), G. M.

William H. Smythe (Indianapolis), G. S.

INDIAN TERRITORY.

"While here at home in shining day,
We round the sunny garden play,
Each little Indian sleepy-head,
Is being kissed and put to bed."

24th Communication. Ardmore, August 10, 1897.

Silas Armstrong, G. M.

On the state of the Craft, he says:

"I am pleased to be able to report that Masonry in this Jurisdiction is in a very prosperous condition. The supervision of the Craft by the Grand Master is necessarily of a general character. In the absence of any special system of official visitations, which it seems impracticable to inaugurate on account of the large expense it would impose on the Grand Lodge, it is difficult to keep in touch with all of the lodges in this jurisdiction. While this is true, my official correspondence has been very large indeed. I am satisfied that it is best to insist upon the lodges settling their own difficulties in so far as they can possibly do so. It makes them more independent and self-reliant. It forces upon them a better knowledge of Masonic law and the application of law. With the exception of one instance, I am pleased to report that with the assistance of brethren I have been successful in harmonizing all differences among the Craft that came to my knowledge."

The Grand Master issued dispensations for ten new lodges. He refused to allow a lodge to hold its regular meetings in a church. He granted permission to a lodge to receive the application of a man who could not write his name.

The Grand Lecturer reports in part as follows:

"I find the brethren thirsting for a knowledge of the ritual, and for a better understanding of the laws and usages of the fraternity.
* * *

"I have visited forty-six lodges and have held schools of instructions of from two to three days duration at each lodge. The total number of days of solid work was one hundred and twenty-one.

"My travels have extended from the Comanche line to Arkansas. All lodges contiguous to the lodges at which the schools were held were notified of the schools and were invited to attend. The entire expense of this work to Grand Lodge is \$730.05."

The committee on Education reported 29 orphan children divided among eight lodges. The excellent work done by this jurisdiction in the education of the orphan is worthy of all commendation :

“ Of the eight lodges reporting orphan children we find five reporting assistance as follows, viz. :

“ Doaksville, No. 2, has contributed \$18 ; Rush Springs No. 7, \$35, and Healdton, No. 23, \$60.

“ Dougherty has paid for education of six children and board of three others. Red Oak paid for education of four children. Berwyn has paid for education of six children.

“ This work ought to be dear to the heart of every Mason, and we respectfully recommend that the representatives of the lodges reporting orphan children under their care, be invited to inform us as to whether any assistance other than above mentioned has been given.

“ While we concur in the desire expressed by preceding communications upon the subject of an orphan's home, yet we do not feel it our duty to make any further recommendation in the matter. We recommend, however, for adoption, the following resolution :

“ WHEREAS, The care of the widow and orphan is one of the duties everywhere taught in Masonry, as incumbent on every lodge and member of the order, be it therefore

“ *Resolved*, By the Grand Lodge of the Indian Territory, that the constituent lodges of our obedience be earnestly entreated to remember this sacred duty, and to take such steps in the care of the orphans within their bounds as their necessities may require and their ability permit.”

The report on Correspondence is omitted for financial reasons.

Lodges, 86 ; members, 3,107 ; increase, 135.

James A. Scott (Muskogee), G. M.

Joseph S. Murrow (Atoka), G. S.

IOWA.

“ Come and take choice of all my Library,
And so beguile thy sorrow.”

54th Communication, Oskaloosa, June 1, 1897.

Geo. W. Ball, G. M.

They have enjoyed peace, harmony and prosperity. Fraternity has been exercised to the fullest extent, the cry of the needy has not been unheeded, and white-winged Charity has done her noble work in ministering to their relief.

Five new lodges were formed. The work indicates a healthy and substantial growth. Many of the lodges are

accumulating property and funds, and have permanent homes.

Their magnificent library now contains nearly 18,000 volumes. Its principal feature is of course Masonic, but there are several other departments, the semi-Masonic, the Iowa department, the general library, the autograph letter department, the general museum and the general periodical department.

The Grand Secretary gives a number of reasons why the Gran Dieta of Mexico should be recognized, and the Grand Lodge approved of his conclusions by the adoption of the following report :

"Your special committee to whom was referred the question of the recognition of the Gran Dieta Simbolica of Mexico, discussed in the annual address of the Grand Master, and also more fully in the report on Mexican Masonry by Grand Secretary Parvin, have carefully considered the subject embraced in these papers, and in view of the facts set forth can see no reason why the Grand Lodge of Iowa should not follow the usual custom of extending the right-hand of fellowship to this Grand Body of our sister republic, and we recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Iowa hereby recognizes the *Gran Dieta Simbolica* of Mexico as an independent, sovereign, Grand Masonic Body, exercising sole jurisdiction over the three degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry in Mexico, and will exchange fraternal courtesies therewith ; and—

"*Further*, That all Masons in Mexico hailing from lodges or Grand Lodges not in affiliation with said *Gran Dieta Simbolica* be denied admission to our lodges."

The display of Masonic emblems in or about saloons was condemned.

The following resolutions were passed :

"*Resolved*, That the fullest sympathy be and is hereby extended to the valiant promoters of Cuban liberty, the conquered but not vanquished Greeks, and the down-trodden Armenians, in their struggles and sufferings for the cause of humanity and liberty. * * *

"*Resolved*, That the Grand Master appoint a committee of three to thoroughly investigate the methods used in other Grand Jurisdictions to impart instruction in the ritual, to report to the next session of this Grand Lodge, and to then suggest such amendments to and changes in our present laws as will, in their opinion, tend to promote greater proficiency in the ritual among the members of the subordinate lodges."

We also copy the following report of a special committee, which was adopted by the Grand Lodge :

"Your committee has had under consideration the question referred to us relating to the appointment of delegates to the Inter-

national Congress of Grand Lodges to be held in Switzerland in 1898. We have felt some embarrassment in satisfactorily disposing of this matter.

"*First.* We feel that the invitation so graciously extended by our fraternal brethren of the Republic of Switzerland to attend an International Congress which might be productive of much good to Masonry throughout the world, ought not to be lightly rejected. On the other hand, we realize that this Grand Lodge has pressing demands upon it for all its funds, and that the expense of sending delegates some five thousand miles would be great. As perhaps the best solution of the question, we recommend the adoption of the following resolution, to wit:

"*Resolved,* That the Grand Master and Wardens-elect are hereby authorized to appoint delegates, not exceeding three in number, to represent the Grand Lodge of Iowa at the International Congress of the Grand Lodges to be held in Switzerland in 1898; *provided,* that such appointment and attendance shall be without expense to the Grand Lodge of Iowa.

"*Second.* Referring to the matter of Masonic relief as presented to the several Grand Lodges by the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin, your committee report that—

"We concur in the remarks of the Grand Master as contained in his address. We believe, as decided by this Grand Lodge at its last annual communication, that Masonic relief should be voluntary, and that it should not be made compulsory upon the lodge of which the relieved is a member, or upon the Grand Lodge from which it holds its charter, to reimburse that lodge furnishing the relief.

"*Third.* Your committee have also had under consideration the report and resolutions of the Grand Lodge of Maine relating to the question of jurisdiction over rejected candidates, and we are of the opinion that it is impracticable to adopt uniform legislation on this subject. Our own Masonic law does not recognize the doctrine that a subordinate lodge, either within or without this jurisdiction, has perpetual jurisdiction in a case where a profane has petitioned for degrees therein. The only limitation on his right to petition is that after he has been rejected he shall not again petition a lodge therefor within six months from the date of rejection. Subject to such limitations he may petition without authority or consent from any lodge: *provided,* always, that it is after such timely residence as is provided by law.

"It is also further provided that a lodge receiving a petition for the degree shall require the petitioner to state therein if he has before petitioned a lodge for the degrees, or any of them, and if so he shall give the name and location of the lodge, and what action was taken on said petition (see Code, *Sections 144 and 120*). The lodge is thus enabled to protect itself from imposition, and may make further investigation if required.

"We are content with this legislation, and believe that in this jurisdiction no further legislation is necessary."

The learned and versatile reporter of this jurisdiction is Bro. J. C. W. Coxe, from whose valuable review we would gladly make numerous extracts were our space

commensurate with our desire. Our Proceedings of 1896 receive very favorable mention, and of the work of our District Deputies in visiting 351 lodges out of 356, he says that such supervision in Iowa would be a startling novelty. He does not agree with his Grand Secretary about Masonry in Mexico, and says that his convictions as to non-recognition have been confirmed "by new and wholly unexpected evidence, which brings to our mind Paul's characterization of the people of Crete in his day."

Lodges, 477; members, 27,489; increase, 413.

Almon R. Dewey (Washington), G. M.

Theodore S. Parvin (Cedar Rapids), G. S.

KANSAS.

Ad astra per aspera.

"Madam, bear in mind that Princes govern all things—
Save the wind."

42nd Communication, Wichita, Feb., 16, 1898.

William M. Shaver, G. M.

The Grand Master laments the affliction which has befallen their senior Past Grand Master, John M. Price, who is mentally beyond appreciation of their fraternal love. He recommends the cessation of intercourse with the Grand Lodge of Peru. He opened three new lodges.

Revised by-laws were adopted with copious notes added to almost every section, representing not only the life labors of that distinguished Masonic jurist, Owen A. Bassett, but also the thought of the best Masonic jurists of modern times, and the carefully expended labors of the committee on revision.

The committee on jurisprudence made a special report on the incorporation of the Grand Lodge, recommending that the whole subject be deferred. They conclude that under the laws of the State, it will be safe to remain as they are and equally safe to incorporate.

The report on Correspondence is by Bro. John C. Postlethwaite, and is prepared with more than average ability. In his notice of California, he says:

"We might infer that the jurisdiction of California extended to the ball room. We suggest that Masonry might be honored by not only dispensing with masonic emblems on ball tickets but by discarding tickets, ball and all. Entertainments outside the lodge room should not be styled 'masonic.' If masonic in character they should not indulge in anything 'offensive' to any member.

The same in regard to masonic banquets. The writer in his official capacity as Grand High Priest rendered a decision on banquets identical with that of Grand Master Preston. The Grand Lodge of Kansas has endorsed similar declarations, and we are pleased to note that sentiment expressed is becoming universal. We infer that some of our California brethren are in the habit of going to church as a lodge. If they can agree as to the particular church, this is good practice, and will be conducive to their moral and spiritual welfare. If they go for the express purpose of worship, the regalia will not be needed."

Canada for 1897 has a good notice.

On public appearances in Masonic clothing, he says :

'All of which received the endorsement of the Grand Lodge and ought to be satisfactory to the writer. Nevertheless he is constrained to put in a word on the first two. We do not deem it appropriate for a lodge to appear in public procession on national memorial occasions. A lodge can pay its tribute to the memory of Washington privately in the lodge room, but should not appear in public. The writer believes in national holidays, and enters enthusiastically on the celebration of the anniversary of Washington's birthday and the anniversary of National Independence, but on these occasions the ceremonies and processions should be of that character that will admit of the humblest American citizen joining the ranks, and thereby pay tribute to the memory of the nation's leaders and rulers as American citizens. Actuated only by a true and pure patriotism, 'Old Glory,' properly displayed, is more appropriate than lodge regalia.

"As to the second, we wonder what part a few white gloves and aprons could have in the worship of God. Lodge regalia has its use and place, but in this day and age we do not think it should be worn in public worship. It detracts the minds, attracts the audience and destroys true worship. We read from the 'Great Light' these words: 'For if there come into your assembly a man with a gold ring in goodly apparel, and there come in also a poor man in vile raiment, and ye have respect unto him that wear the gay clothing and say unto him, set thou here in a good place, and say to the poor, stand thou there, or sit here under my footstool, are ye not then partial in yourselves and are become judges of evil thoughts?' 'God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of His saints.'"

And on the order of the Eastern Star :

"Peace, be still, my brother. The Order of Eastern Star is a legitimate institution, composed of our wives, mothers, sisters, widows and daughters, more than 120,000 strong, who are assured the protection of every loyal mason, and glory in the fact that they do not *need* to be masons to receive that protection. No danger of their entering our lodges if the doors were not tyled. God bless them, they are independent. Their beauty of character, smiling and winsome dispositions, and true devotion in deeds of charity, excite the admiration, love and esteem of masons who anxiously crave admittance to their chapters and who readily voice the sentiment of the poet :

"We're true and sincere, and just to the fair,
Who will trust us on every occasion;
No mortals can more the ladies adore,
Than a Free and Accepted Mason.

"Come to Kansas, brother, and take a view of our Kansas Masonic Home. See the handsome furniture and the beautiful decorations placed therein by the hands of our sisters. See how much happiness emanates through the exemplification of the precious truths represented by the characters of the heroines of the Star, and you will sing—

"O woman, dear woman, whose form and whose soul
Are the light and the life of each spell we pursue,
Whether sunned in the tropics or chilled at the pole,
If woman be there, there is happiness too,

—with no thought of an invasion into the sacred precincts of the lodge. Cultivate the acquaintance of the Order of the Eastern Star, and your happiness will correspondingly increase and your fears will be entirely dispelled."

Lodges, 357; members, 19,888; increase, 209.

Maurice L. Stone (Wamego), G. M.

Albert K. Wilson (Topeka), G. S.

KENTUCKY.

"Which cheers the sad, revives the old, inspires
The young, makes Weariness forget his toil,
And Fear her danger; opens a new world
When this, the present, palls.

98th Communication, Louisville, Oct. 19, 1897.

Robert F. Peak, G. M.

With much gratification, the grand Master announces that Masonry in Kentucky has prospered notwithstanding the hard pressure in the business world. He opened four new lodges. He finds great negligence in some lodges in making returns and paying dues. He has words of praise for "The Home," the pride of Kentucky Masons, and urges a strict compliance with the rules, which provide that no child can remain an inmate after the age of sixteen.

Their Centennial Celebration will be held in 1900. The following report of the Centennial committee was adopted:

"Your committee, appointed for the purpose of raising a fund for the erection, equipment and endowment of an Infirmary and Old Masons Home, in connection with our Masonic Widows and Orphans' Home, regret to report that they have not secured \$50,000, the amount deemed necessary before the work on the building should begin. Under ordinary conditions they are of the opinion greatly more than this amount could have been procured as easily as the \$30,250.00 which has been subscribed. As the hard times, which have been the obstacle in the way of this great charity, are

believed to be passing away, they indulge in the hope that, in the near future, the remainder will be subscribed and the work begun, so as to have the Home and Infirmary ready for dedication and occupancy by our Centennial Year, 1900. The last Grand Lodge granted the committee further time for a report on the question of publishing a Masonic history; but as the whole matter is contingent upon the raising of \$50,000.00, we most respectfully ask for further time, trusting that by the next Annual Communication of Grand Lodge we will be able to report the fund raised and a fitting programme for our Centennial Celebration."

The refusal of the Grand Master to grant permission to confer degrees out of time is heartily commended, as also his refusal to allow lodges to send out begging circulars.

It was deemed expedient to restore the College of Custodians and Grand Lecturer.

The allowance for mileage was reduced from four cents to three cents per mile, and the large amount saved hereby was appropriated by the following resolution:

"That there be appropriated out of the sum saved by the reduction of mileage this day ordered, the sum of \$500.00 per annum for five years, beginning with the next session of this Grand Lodge, and that the balance of said sum so saved be paid over during the same period to the Masonic Widows and Orphans' Home and Infirmary."

The report on Correspondence by Bro. W. W. Clarke is well written and very interesting. Canada for 1896 has fraternal mention. In his review of Maine we find the following on perpetual jurisdiction:

"So much of Bro. Drummoud's review of proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky for 1896, as deals with the Correspondence report is a labored and ineffectual effort to parry the force of what he says we *call* our 'third argument on the question of jurisdiction over rejected candidates.' The best evidence that it is an argument, and a most conclusive one, is found in the fact that this able champion has given so much space in an effort to answer it, and in the further fact that his labors have proven so ineffectual. We are not in the habit of boasting of our work, but a victory over so redoubtable a champion, not only elates us but gives us increased confidence in our cause.

"Our brother denies that the Grand Lodge of Maine is a government of enumerated powers, but he makes in this very review an admission that can be true only upon the assumption that such is true. We wonder if he sees it. Let us see if we can not point out so plainly that even an advocate of the illogical doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction can see it. He said:

"The Deputy Grand Master presiding, a proposition to amend a proposed amendment to the constitution, presented the year before, was ruled out of order, and the ruling sustained by the Grand Lodge. Correct: but there has been, of late years, a ten-

dency in the opposite direction, and some codes expressly provide that amendments may be made in such cases.

"Now, will our brother give, if he can, any other reason why the ruling of the Deputy Grand was correct, as he positively asserts it was, except that the constitution of the Grand Lodge is its grant of power and every amendment thereto is a modification of its powers, and, having been submitted to the constituent lodges, can not be further changed except after a re-submission. Fatal admission!

"Our third argument (?) has forced our good brother, the champion of this doctrine, into another admission, while destructive, is the logical result of the doctrine itself. We submitted this proposition: A *Kentucky* lodge rejected a candidate, who had always lived in Kentucky; subsequently another *Kentucky* lodge made him a mason, acting in perfect conformity with the masonic law of *Kentucky*. Later he was elected Master of his lodge, and later still Grand Master. It will be observed that the rejecting lodge and the lodge that elected and enforced the degrees were both *Kentucky* lodges. We then asked if he, the Grand Master of Kentucky, would be permitted to visit a lodge in Pennsylvania. This is Bro. Drummond's reply:

"In answer to his question, we say certainly not, any more than if the Grand Lodge of Kentucky should make a woman a mason, and then make her Grand Master, and she should attempt to visit a lodge in Pennsylvania; or if it should make a mason of an expelled mason, and make him Grand Master.

"Bro. Drummond's admission is fatal; it is however logical, because no other answer could be made unless the doctrine were abandoned. This, the writer of this report foresaw, and to reduce the adherents of this doctrine to its ridiculously absurd position he wrote it. It is unnecessary to argue the question further; the ablest defender of the doctrine has admitted himself out of court.

"We have not time to pursue this question further, were it necessary, but to give Bro. Drummond something to think about, we submit the following propositions and will undertake to make them good against all comers:

"1. The Grand Lodge of Maine is a government of enumerated powers, the *ipse dixit* of Bro. Drummond to the contrary notwithstanding.

"2. The Grand Lodge of Maine could not exist without constituted lodges, its permanent individual membership to the contrary notwithstanding."

Lodges, 467; members, 18,464; increase, 97.

Reginald H. Thompson (Louisville), G. M.

H. B. Grant (Louisville), G. S.

LOUISIANA.

"Nature's prime favorites were the *Pelicans*, high-fed, long-lived, sociable and free."

86th Communication, New Orleans, Feb. 14, 1898.

Albert G. Brice, G. M.

The result of the year's labor is favorable, considering the discouraging period through which they have passed. Their losses by death were 130, an unusual number, and out of proportion to their number as compared with previous years.

The death is announced of their most famous member, Bro. John Quincy Adams Fellows, P. G. M., in the 73rd year of his age, and the 48th of his Masonic life. He had been the presiding officer of all the Grand Bodies in the State, and was also Past Grand Master of the Knights Templars. Bro. Fellows was in many respects a most remarkable man, a great scholar, well read, a good writer and speaker of great ability, and an imposing personality. His devotion to the Craft was intense. He was beloved by all his brethren, and they knew him as a wise counsellor, a true friend, generous, and of noble qualities. His loss is deeply regretted, and his memory will long be preserved.

The following resolutions were adopted :

" *Resolved*, That the Grand Lodge of Peru having extinguished the Great Light upon its altars has ceased to be a true Masonic body, and that the action of the Grand Master in respect to said Grand Lodge and its representatives be sustained and perpetuated. This action to remain in force until that Light shall be again rekindled. * * *

" *Resolved*, That in view of the generous action of the M. E. Grand Chapter of Royal Arch Masons of Louisiana in donating to this Grand Lodge \$2,700, in bonds of the Grand Lodge: Now, in order to reduce expenses, and raise necessary funds to meet the remaining deficiency, we recommend that the salary of Grand Lecturer be reduced to \$1,200, and the salary of the Grand Tyler be reduced to \$25, and the Grand Organist and Chaplain be reduced to \$10 each; further, we recommend that the tax of \$1 for each degree be raised to \$2, until further action of this Grand Lodge. * * *

" *Resolved*, That it is unwise to name any lodge in this jurisdiction after any living Mason, and the same is prohibited in the future. * * *

" *Resolved*, That in view of the financial exhibit and the necessity that exists for a strict economy in the affairs of the Grand Lodge, the report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence be omitted for the ensuing year."

Lodges, 133; members, 5,439; increase, 5.

A. C. Allen (Franklin), G. M.

Richard Lambert (New Orleans), G. S.

MAINE.

Dirigo.

"Why dost thou lead these men about the streets?
Truly Sir, to wear out their shoes to get myself into more work."

78th Communication, Portland, May 4, 1897.
Augustus B. Farnham, G. M.

The condition of the Craft is thus stated:

"The reports from the District Deputy Grand Masters indicate that harmony prevails throughout our jurisdiction. A great degree of interest is shown by the officers of the several lodges, and largely as a result of the masonic conventions which have been held during the last few years the ritual is more closely followed, and the ancient usages and customs of the fraternity more fully observed. We now have in the state a membership of 22,085, a gain of 132 over last year."

The District Deputies were faithful and zealous in the discharge of their important duties, and their active interest in the lodges keeps them in good shape.

The following report was adopted:

"We have examined the reports of the District Deputy Grand Masters, and find that general prosperity prevails. There are a few points to which we call attention:

1st. Collection of Dues. While the reports show that dues are fairly well collected, yet there are a few lodges which show a large amount due from their members, and these are the lodges which are in the poorest condition generally. The financial affairs of a lodge must be managed in a business-like manner or the lodge will be a failure. We believe it to be the duty of District Deputies to examine the financial methods of lodges as carefully as they do the work.

2nd. We believe that candidates should be examined in open lodge before advancement. This is already the practice of many of our best lodges, and should be the custom of *all*.

3rd. The conventions of the Grand Lecturer have been of great benefit to the Order, and should be continued, and especial attention should be given by District Deputies and by lodge officers *to attend* those conventions."

In the report of the committee on jurisprudence, we find a paragraph of international interest. Dual membership is allowed in Canada, but not in Maine.

"A member of a Canadian lodge desired to become a member of a Maine lodge. It does not appear why he did not procure and present a dimit. Upon referring the matter to the M. W. Grand Master of Canada, he stated that under the masonic law of Canada, a mason may be a member of more than one lodge, and there was nothing to prevent the Maine lodge's receiving the petition, and our M. W. Grand Master decided that it could be re-

ceived. This was undoubtedly correct, but under the law of this Grand Lodge, we do not see how he could possibly become a member of a Maine lodge until he should produce a dimit (or its equivalent), from the Canadian lodge. While there is no express provision in our Constitution that a mason cannot be a member of more than one lodge, such has been the practice in this, in common with almost every Grand Jurisdiction in this country."

Bro. Josiah H. Drummond prepared his report on Correspondence in the shadow of sore affliction. For the first time, death invaded his family circle and removed his youngest daughter, who for 30 years had been a light in his household. We extend our sympathy.

The report covers 264 pages and treats of all the subjects of discussion in the eminent author's usually able manner. In his review of our Proceedings of 1896, Bro. Drummond quotes from the address of the Grand Master as to the so-called Grand Lodge of Ontario, with the following comment :

"This certainly is gratifying intelligence: there is one thing lacking, however; a list of those made in the lodges of this organization *who have not been healed* ought to be furnished. One of them applied for recognition or to be put in good standing, to a lodge of another grand jurisdiction: the question was a difficult one, but it was decided that the Grand Lodge of Canada had by its recent action, given such a status to these parties as to allow the healing of them in another jurisdiction: we think that the decision was correct, but a declaration on the part of the Grand Lodge of Canada in the matter, is highly desirable, to avoid possible complications."

He points out a possible complication in our amendment to the law of residence of candidates :

"The following was adopted :

"The place where a candidate is constantly employed and is in receipt of his wages or salary, though not strictly speaking his place of residence, may be treated by him as such for the purposes of this and the next preceding clause.

"This seems objectionable, because it gives some candidates an option of applying in either of two different places: and unless the provision is limited to cases in which both the residence and the place where he is employed are *both* within the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge, serious complications are likely to arise, involving difficulty with the Grand Lodge within whose jurisdiction the candidate's real residence is located."

Bro. Drummond is still in favor of public installations, notwithstanding our herculean efforts to convert him to our way of thinking. He says that they do not "advertise Masonry" any more than do Masonic funerals or laying corner-stones. Our remarks have always been

directed against *unnecessary* public appearances, but our esteemed confrere is apparently unable to see the distinction.

The following from his notice of Colorado appears to be correct and sensible :

“ He also decides as follows :

‘ It is a masonic offence for the Master or Wardens of a lodge to make known to any one of the number of black balls cast in the rejection of an applicant. A brother seeking such information is subject to discipline.’

“ We are quite aware that this is held to be the law pretty generally, but for all that, we don't believe in it. It is contrary to the old custom in this part of the masonic world, and, moreover, we hold that every member has a right to know what takes place in the lodge, and we have never been able to find any authority for holding that the Master and Wardens have any right to suppress knowledge of what takes place in open lodge from the members, unless, as in some instances is the fact, the express law of the jurisdiction so provides, but we hold such a law to be contrary to the principles which govern the relation of members of lodges to each other.”

Lodges, 192 ; members. 22,085 ; increase, 132.

Joseph A. Locke (Portland), G. M.

Stephen Berry (Portland), G. S.

MANITOBA.

“ Look up! the wide extended plain
Is billowy with its ripened grain,
And on the summer winds are rolled
Its waves of emerald and gold.”

22nd Communication, Winnipeg, June 9, 1897.

Corbet Locke, G. M.

New lodges were opened at Lacombe and South Edmonton, both in Alberta. The Grand Master visited many of the lodges. He mentions the death of one of their earliest Grand Masters, John Headly Bell, who was Grand Master for five years and greatly esteemed. On the federation of the Grand Lodges of the Dominion Bro. Locke says :

“ I have referred to the United Grand Lodge of England ; it may not be known to all of you that there are forty-six Provincial Grand Lodges also in England all subordinate to the United Grand Lodge. This is an age of federation. We read of federations of colonies, states, colleges, and churches. We have in Canada seven provinces, each with a Supreme Grand Lodge,— why should we not have a federation of the Grand Lodges of the Provinces under the title of the United Grand Lodge of Canada ? In suggesting this I must acknowledge that my ideas of the utility

and practicability of it are somewhat immature, and that there may be many more difficulties in arranging for such a federation, and successfully carrying it out, than I now foresee. Yet it appears to me there would be many advantages to the craft in Canada from the getting together in one grand central body the most capable of the Freemasons of Canada to legislate for the craft throughout the Dominion.

"I shall not enlarge further on this question but leave it with you for your consideration in the hope that you may think it of sufficient importance to appoint a committee to consider it, and empower them if they think it judicious to correspond with the other Grand Lodges with a view to the consummation of what I venture to think would be a strengthening of the power for good that we now possess."

The erection and maintenance of the Freemason's Hospital at Morden, without any liability on the part of the Grand Lodge, is a good example of what can be done by individual brethren if a united effort is made:

"I doubt not that I will be expected to refer to the hospital, and I gladly embrace this opportunity of letting you know something of what has been done, of what property has been acquired, and of the position of the hospital financially. I am also glad to refer to the work in the hope that the veritus of what has been done in this sparsely populated jurisdiction to furnish means of relief to the sick, may be a spur to other jurisdictions to do something of the same so exactly, in my view, in accord with the tenets of our order.

"The building of the hospital was approved of by Grand Lodge during the session of 1891, the understanding being that it should be an individual undertaking, not in any sense a Grand Lodge work; that the promoters should also be responsible for it, and that no liability of any kind should rest upon the Grand Lodge. As you know it was determined that the funds for the building should be got entirely from Freemasons, and this was rigidly adhered to, and not one dollar went into the building not furnished by the craft save the mortgage monies, and they are being liquidated from the same source.

"Two of the members of Belmont Lodge visited some thirty-eight towns in this jurisdiction and solicited subscriptions from the brethren, and by this means and through appeals to the lodges and contributions to some extent from Masons outside of Manitoba and the North-West Territories, upwards of \$8,000 was obtained. A plot of land, three acres in extent, was purchased and a brick building providing accommodation for twenty-three patients was erected at a first cost of \$10,483. There was some subsequent expenditure on the building, and an additional acre of land bought, till to-day we have a property vested in the corporation covering upwards of \$11,000, subject however at the opening of the hospital to an encumbrance of \$2,500 now reduced to \$1,851.75.

"The hospital is well provided throughout at a cost, including a first expenditure of \$846 since increased to upwards of \$1,000. For surgical instruments of at least \$3,000. A total property

worth \$14,000 with a mortgage debt of \$1,851.75, and a small floating indebtedness well within the control of the directorate. When the work was taken in hand many expressed the fear that though the erection of the building might be accomplished that it could not be maintained, and that the maintenance of it would be a constant drag on the craft—such however has not been the event.

“Taking the year just passed, I may say that at the monthly meeting held on the thirty-first day of December, the statement furnished showed cash in hand to meet all current liabilities on maintenance account for the year except something under \$200, and to meet this there was payable to the hospital, by patients, an amount very considerably in excess of the shortage.

“The total number of days of treatment in 1896 was 3,679, an increase of 457 days over the previous year; the average stay of patients was 13.5 days, the death rate a fraction under three per cent., and the cost per day of treatment \$1.23½. There were eighty-eight surgical operations during the year.

“The hospital is a general one to which Freemasons, as such, have no special privileges, and the work stands to-day a monument to the truth of that declaration made by all of us that we were ‘prompted to solicit those privileges by a sincere desire to become more serviceable to mankind,’ a distinct effort by the craft of this jurisdiction to do good to men irrespective of creed, color, or clime.”

The committee on jurisprudence reported that the time had not yet arrived to take action in the federation of Grand Lodges.

There is a prospect of a lodge being started at Fort Saskatchewan, twenty miles north of Edmonton, so our brethren travelling to the Klondike will find friends by the way.

We are promised a report on Correspondence next year.

The library continues to be well cared for by Bro. W. G. Scott, and it is steadily growing. The reading room is a source of great pleasure and benefit.

It was moved by M. W. Bro. Chas. N. Bell (1), seconded by V. W. Bro. John D. D. Higginbotham (41),

“That it is the opinion of this Grand Lodge that the only public occasions on which Masonic regalia should be worn are funeral, church services and laying of corner stones.”

In amendment it was moved by R. W. Francis G. Lewin (35), seconded by R. W. Bro. Hamilton Lang (26),

“That it is the opinion of this Grand Lodge that no restrictions should be placed upon the exercise by the Grand Master of his prerogative to grant dispensations to wear regalia on public occasions.

“The amendment was then put to Grand Lodge and declared ‘carried.’”

In our opinion, the original motion should have been carried, with the omission of the word “church.”

The Wisconsin relief proposal was not concurred in.

Lodges, 59; members, 2641; increase, 202.

Thomas Robinson (Winnipeg), G. M.

Wm. G. Scott (Winnipeg), G. S.

MARYLAND.

“Formed for deeds of high resolve.”

111th Communication, Baltimore, Nov. 16, 1897.

Thomas J. Shryock, G. M.

We make the following extracts from the address of the Grand Master:

“By virtue of the authority in me vested as your Grand Master, I convened an Emergency Lodge, and made, ‘at sight,’ His Excellency, Lloyd Lowndes, Governor of Maryland, a mason. An erroneous idea has arisen in the minds of many of the Fraternity as to the ceremony of making a mason ‘at sight,’ and to erase this wrong, and perhaps damaging impression, I deem it but proper to say that, in the making of a mason ‘at sight,’ by the Grand Master, the candidate is required to pass through all the forms and ceremonies incident to the conferring of the Three Degrees, in the same manner that an applicant does in applying to a subordinate lodge. The impression of some that the Grand Master, by virtue of his authority, touches a man on the shoulder and creates him a mason, is entirely erroneous, and as I know that this impression does exist to a certain extent, I think it proper to here state, so the craft may understand it throughout our Jurisdiction, that such is not the case. The making of a mason ‘at sight,’ is one of the landmarks of the Fraternity, the prerogative of the Grand Master, and I have on two occasions exercised that prerogative, as much for the purpose of not allowing it to become dormant as for any other reason. * * *

“One of the saddest duties of my long term of office is to read to you a communication from Brother Edward T. Shultz, who has for so many years acted as Chairman of the Committee on Correspondence. I can assure you, when I read it, my heart went out in sympathy to our well beloved brother, and I feel satisfied yours will also. He has been sorely afflicted by the Great Giver of all good for some wise and unforeseen reason, which is incomprehensible to us, but I have no doubt that you, with me, indulge the hope that it will not be as serious as our brother indicates his belief it will be. Brother Schultz has been one of the most untiring, unselfish and devoted workers in this Grand Lodge for many years back; indeed, before many of us had seen the light of Freemasonry, and his record will live in the annals of this Grand Lodge as long as memory lasts. When all of us present have passed the Jordan of Death and others have taken our place in

the ranks the name of Schultz will still be upheld in remembrance; aye, in reverence, by those who come after us."

Bro. Schultz is almost totally blind. This terrible affliction which has befallen an old and well-tried friend makes our heart sad, and we cannot find words to express our sympathy and hope for his recovery. The volume before us is shorn of much of its interest, by reason of the absence of his usual excellent disquisitions on matters concerning the Craft. A resolution of sympathy was passed by the Grand Lodge.

The brethren were much gratified at the presence in their midst of their senior Past Grand Master, Bro. Charles H. Ohr, now 87 years old, and who was their Grand Master in 1840.

A Communication was read from K. Saadeh, the secretary of our Royal Solomon Mother Lodge at Jerusalem, thanking them for a handsome copy of their Proceedings.

On motion, the Grand Lodge reaffirmed the doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction.

The Committee on the address thus reported:

"It meets with our most hearty approval that the Grand Master has, in this address, made known to the craft just what is meant by making a 'Mason at Sight,' for this has been a matter not understood by the membership at large. The exercise of the prerogative of the Grand Master in making a 'Mason at Sight' being within his discretion we deem it all important, however, that the brother so honored should immediately place himself under instructions and learn just what the forms and ceremonies truly mean."

Lodges, 101; members, 7,474; increase, 164.

Thomas J. Shyrock (Baltimore), G. M.

Jacob H. Medairy (Baltimore), G. S.

MASSACHUSETTS.

"Boston State-house is the hub of the solar system. You couldn' pry that out of a Boston man if you had the tire of all creation straightened out for a crow-bar."

Quarterly Communication, Boston, Dec. 9, 1896.

Edwin B. Holmes, G. M.

The anniversaries of lodges that have reached the century mark, the dedicating of Halls and the laying of corner-stones caused a large number of special communications. Exemplifications were held in twelve districts. The death is announced of Bro. John H. Collamore, whose magnificent gifts to the fraternity have often been previ-

ously noticed. By his will, further grand donations were given :

“The charitable and fraternal work of Bro. Collamore was constant and unstinted. By the conditions of his will his generosity will continue to be shown and his charitable work will go on through coming generations. He left a legacy to each of the Masonic bodies of which he was an honorary member, and especially made this Grand Lodge the almoner of his charity. He bequeathed to the trustees of the ‘Masonic Education and Charity Trust,’ the sum of \$50,000, to be allowed to accumulate until it shall become \$100,000, to constitute the ‘John H. Collamore Charity Fund,’ the income thereof to be devoted, according to the discretion of the trustees, to the relief of members of the Masonic fraternity, who have received the degrees in lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and the wives, widows, and children under sixteen years of age, of such members.”

Quarterly Communication, March 10, 1897.

An amendment to the Constitution was adopted (in accordance with the proposition from the Grand Lodge of Maine), limiting the jurisdiction of lodges over rejected candidates to the term of five years from the date of rejection in all cases.

The following was unanimously adopted :

“*Voted*, That the Board of Directors of this Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons be and are hereby authorized to rebuild and reconstruct the Masonic Temple upon the land now owned and occupied by this Grand Lodge on the corner of Tremont and Boylston streets, in such way and manner as they shall think best. And they are hereby authorized to borrow such sums of money as they find necessary or expedient for such rebuilding or reconstruction, not to exceed in amount four hundred thousand dollars ; and to issue therefor a note or notes, bond or bonds of this Grand Lodge, and to secure the sum, if they deem it necessary or expedient, by mortgaging the real estate above referred to, with power of sale, and to execute such mortgage in such form and manner as they shall deem best.”

Quarterly Communication, Dec. 8, 1897.

Charles C. Hutchinson, G. M.

Exemplifications were held in fourteen districts. The manner in which the work and lectures were rendered is highly commended by the Grand Lecturers. The results generally were satisfactory and seem to justify the regulations of the Grand Lodge on this subject.

164th Annual Communication, Boston, Dec. 28, 1897.

The officers were duly installed and the “Grand Feast” duly held.

This symposium is always a great occasion and the speeches are reported in full. They are away above the

average, scintillating with wit and humor, and withal containing noble sentiments and reflections worthy of the best minds. The Grand Master thus opened the festival :

“ Brethren, I bid you all a most hearty welcome to our annual feast, and I invite you cheerfully, joyously and zealously to enter into the spirit of this occasion. It is well for us at times, to forget the cares and employments of life, to meet in happy communion and to do what we can to illustrate the social character of our institution. The Grand Lodge, during the past year, has been indulging in a great many festivities. It has assisted in the centennial celebrations of six or seven lodges, and the Grand Officers and other invited guests have, in a way peculiar to themselves, enjoyed to the full all of those occasions and the bounties which have been spread before them by their Brethren.

“ As I remember some of the incidents and events which have occurred during the past year in these centennial celebrations, it is a wonder to me, and I have no doubt it is a surprise to many, that some of the brethren are able to be here this evening in becoming and presentable condition ; and I have no doubt, brethren, that if I should tell you, or if you had seen what I have witnessed, it would be a surprise to you to see them here. The Right Worshipful Recording Grand Secretary, the Worshipful Grand Chaplains, the Worshipful Grand Marshal, and the Brother Tyler—all of these brethren have been interested in these centennials in a way peculiar to themselves, illustrating and proving, in their own way, as I have said, not only their great interest, their deep interest, in the welfare of all the Bodies they have visited, but also proving their own great capacity.

“ But seriously, brethren, these centennials have been, as I believe, of great benefit, not only to the lodges, but to the communities in which they are located. They have awakened an enthusiasm and a zeal among the older as well as among the younger members of our fraternity, and the townspeople have vied with each other to make those occasions happy and notable.

“ During all these centennials I have carried with me one thought, and that has been the continuity of our institution. It has been said that all things in life are transitory ; that the idols to which one generation pays homage are deserted by the next ; that the things which we revered but yesterday are to-day set aside,—forgotten,—insignificant ; that the combinations which we make to-day are broken to-morrow.

“ Now, this may be true ; but, my brethren, when we find a human institution which has existed from generation to generation, we have reason to believe that it has for its foundation, something broader than humanity. The traditions and history of our institution teach us that it is founded upon truth and right ; and, my brethren, because it is so founded, it stands to-day in all its vigor.

“ There is nothing that can compare with it in age, except perhaps, the works of nature. The same stars that stud the heavens to-night shone hundreds and hundreds of years ago ; the same sun that lights our footsteps radiated its heat and diffused its light hundreds and hundreds of years ago. But think of the changes in all things else ! Principalities and powers, kingdoms and em-

pires, have risen and fallen in quick succession; but through it all, and as a witness to it all, our institution has pursued, calmly and quietly, its unbroken course, dispensing its benefactions upon all, and it stands to-day, admired by everybody; and, brethren, it will be preserved and nurtured by the same powers and qualities which gave it birth.

"There is not a drop in yonder bay that was in it a year ago; yet it is the same beautiful, useful harbor now that it was then, doing its work day by day and hour by hour. So it is and so it will be with our fraternity. When you and I have ceased from active work here, and have passed beyond the veil which limits mortal sight, other hands and other hearts will take up the work which we bequeath to them and their successors after them; and in the far distant future this great institution which we represent, and which they will represent, will stand a monument of the zeal, fidelity and intelligence of generation after generation. Benedictions will encircle it, honor will be yielded to it, and veneration felt for the hallowed recollections it awakens.

"There are two days in the year of special interest to masons,—the twenty-fourth day of June and the twenty-seventh day of December. The one we celebrate as the birthday of St. John the Baptist, who as a zealous judge of morality and undaunted preacher obtained great celebrity. The other we observe as the anniversary of St. John the Evangelist, who was distinguished for his gentleness, humility and great energy. His gospel is especially important to masons, for he preached love, and his book contains all the fundamental doctrines of Freemasonry. I invite you to join with me in the first regular toast; To the memory of the holy Saints John."

Lodges, 235; members, 38,416; increase, 956.

Charles C. Hutchinson (Boston), G. M.

Sereno D. Nickerson (Boston), G. S.

MICHIGAN.

"Pour the full tide of eloquence along,
Serenely pure and yet divinely strong."

54th Communication, Grand Rapids, Jan. 25, 1898.

Lou B. Winsor, G. M.

The Grand Master presents a roscate view of their prosperity:

"One of the ambitions of my life is realized to-day in being able to report to you that the past year has been a thoroughly prosperous one throughout this Grand Jurisdiction. The names of a large number of our best citizens in every community throughout the state have been added to our membership rolls.

"Our masonic workers have redoubled the efforts to present the beautiful lessons and teachings of our order in an impressive manner.

"Our lodges have aspired to providing themselves with better homes; never were so many new halls and temples dedicated to masonry within our jurisdiction in any one year as in the one last

past, as you will discover when I report to you under that subject.

"In fact the true spirit of freemasonry and masonic enthusiasm among its votaries never flourished to a greater extent, and it becomes our duty as the Legislative Body of the Craft to so conduct our actions that this happy condition of affairs may long continue.

"Not a single serious event has occurred during the year to mar the steady growth and prosperity of our order. Petty troubles, indeed, have occasionally arisen, as they always will, even in the best regulated families, and such we cannot expect to avoid until we assemble in the Grand Lodge above."

They have twenty-seven living Past Grand Masters, many of whom have passed the allotted span of life and one of whom served as Grand Master before the present Grand Master was born, yet none were removed during the year and they have the proud satisfaction of greeting a larger number of venerable, honorable and distinguished Past Grand Masters than any other Grand Lodge in the world at present.

The Grand Master issued dispensations for two new lodges. He had not less than 372 questions propounded to him during the year, but only found it necessary to report 25 of his decisions. He spent 159 days away from home on Grand Lodge business, travelled 10,171 miles and wrote 1318 official letters. A very good record.

They have a curious requirement in their laws, that every brother wishing a dimit must state his reasons therefor. Some of the reasons reported during the year show the futility of such a provision :

- "Did not want to serve two Gods."
- "Wants to withdraw from all secret orders."
- "Wants to sever connection."
- "Old age."
- "Unknown."
- "Could not attend meetings."
- "Inconvenient to attend."
- "For no reason only that it was asked for."
- "Did not wish to belong to the Order any longer."
- "Business prevented attending lodge."
- "On account of religious belief."
- "On account of age and distance from lodge."
- "On account of poor health."
- "Tired of the work."

The following regarding Peru was adopted :

"WHEREAS, The Grand Lodge of Peru, by its action in abolishing the use of the Bible upon masonic altars, has deliberately severed the strongest link which bound it to Ancient Craft Masonry the world over, and placed itself upon the level of the atheistic organizations of some of the countries of the old world, therefore,

Resolved, That all recognition heretofore accorded the Grand Lodge of Peru be and is hereby withdrawn, and the said Grand Lodge of Peru is declared to be an *atheistic* and *unmasonic body*, and all masonic intercourse between masons holding obedience to the Grand Lodge of Michigan and all persons owning allegiance to the aforesaid Grand Lodge of Peru is hereby interdicted and forbidden; but all brethren formerly under the obedience of the said Grand Lodge of Peru who shall renounce such allegiance, and all lodges in that jurisdiction that refuse to obey the decree before mentioned, but retain the use of the Bible upon their altars as the great masonic light, are excepted from the provisions of this edict and masonic communication may be continued with them as heretofore."

The Grand Lecturer, Bro. Arthur M. Clark, reports that there were fifty seven lodges of instruction held during the year and the attendance was greater than in any previous year. There were only four lodges not represented at these schools, and the total attendance was 11,034.

The following amendments to the Constitution were adopted:

"No lodge shall admit to full membership a brother who is a member of another lodge; *Provided*, that an affiliated Master Mason in good standing, may be elected to honorary membership in a lodge other than his own, but in each case, his name shall be proposed at a regular communication, lie over for one month and then be voted on by ball ballot in the regular way, a unanimous vote in his favor being necessary to an election. * * *

"All subordinate lodges under the jurisdiction of this Grand Lodge, and all members of the same, are hereby expressly prohibited from forming incorporate masonic bodies under the laws of Michigan. *Provided*, that nothing herein contained shall be construed as prohibiting masons from organizing unincorporated Masonic Associations for the purpose of owning property to be used for masonic purposes."

Political methods have crept into their Grand Lodge elections and it was found necessary to condemn such un-masonic practices:

"WHEREAS, the Grand Lodge of F. and A. M. of the State of Michigan strongly disapproves of the political form of campaigning for office in this Grand Body, which has manifested itself in some of our elections of recent years, and that the methods to which our M. W. Grand Master alludes would certainly be highly censured should they ever be practiced in any of our constituent lodges, therefore be it

Resolved, that this Grand Lodge frowns upon the sending out of letters, circulars or solicitations for support from delegates for any elective office in this Grand Body.

"That it is highly improper for a candidate, in hope of strengthening his canvass, to open headquarters in true political style.

"That delegates should write their own ballots for their choice on the slips which are passed by the tellers.

"That the purpose of the ballot is to give every delegate a perfectly free, private and uninfluenced expression for an honor which will then be worthily bestowed."

The per capita tax was increased by ten cents, the increase to be for the benefit of the Masonic Home.

The Grand Secretary reports on Correspondence, and has a good notice of Canada for 1897.

Lodges, 387; members, 39,576; increase, 908.

James Bradley (Port Huron), G. M.

Jefferson S. Conover (Coldwater), G. S.

MINNESOTA.

"I am constant as the Northern Star,
Of whose true fix'd and restless quality
There is no fellow in the firmament."

45th Communication, St. Paul, January 12, 1898.

James F. Lawless, G. M.

He reports two new lodges. He very correctly refused to grant a dispensation to confer the degrees without fee on a minister, believing that if the degrees are worth anything to any person, they are worth paying for.

The following resolutions were passed:

"*Resolved*, That it shall be deemed unmasonic for any mason within this jurisdiction to hereafter become a member of any insurance company having or using masonic insignia or the term masonic, or referring to the masonic fraternity in its title, or using illustrations or representations of masonic emblems on its business cards, circulars or correspondence; and it shall be deemed unmasonic for any mason to hereinafter solicit any person in this jurisdiction to become a member or beneficiary in any such organization using titles or emblems indicated; *provided*, that this resolution shall not take effect until March 31, 1899.

"*Resolved*, That all masonic intercourse between this Grand Lodge and the lodges and masons of its obedience and the Grand Lodge of Peru, and any man or body of men claiming or professing to be Freemasons acknowledging allegiance to said Grand Lodge of Peru is hereby prohibited."

Bro. Thomas Montgomery, Grand Secretary, who had recently made a tour in the United Kingdom, presented his credentials as Grand Representative of the Grand Lodges of Scotland and Ireland. A handsome Representative's jewel of gold accompanied the commission from Ireland. His commission from Scotland was handed to him in person while in Edinburgh.

Bro. Irving Todd reports on Correspondence. The Proceedings of Canada had not been received.

Lodges, 208; members, 15,691; increase, 210.

Alonzo T. Stebbins (Rochester), G. M.

Thos. Montgomery (St. Paul), G. S.

MISSOURI.

Salus populi suprema lex esto.

“Based on the will and the good will of an instructed people.”

77th Communication, St. Louis, Oct. 19, 1897.

Dorsey A. Jamison, G. M.

He reports five new lodges. In conjunction with the Grand Lecturer, he held a number of State Lodges of Instruction, at which much interest was manifested by the brethren, “not only in becoming more perfect in the ritual, but also in obtaining a better understanding of the teachings and principles which lie beneath the ritual.”

The Grand Master also visited about forty lodges. He has a large meed of praise for their fifty-five District Deputies for their untiring efforts in upholding the high standard of the Craft.

From the report of the President of the Masonic Home we make the following extracts:

“The completion of the new addition to the Home, referred to in the last report, has added greatly to the convenience of the Home and the comfort of the inmates. The cost of the new building was \$22,705.46; cost of improvements to the old building, adjoining and attached to the new, \$503.47; architect’s fees, \$843.64; heating plant, for heating all of the buildings, \$3,331.83. There has been expended for changing and remodelling the infirmary and old dining room, damaged by the cyclone, 1896, \$1,029.12.

“A careful examination of the report of the superintendent will disclose the fact that we have now more old people in the Home than boys. There is greater demand for homes for old people than for children. This fact has impressed the Board with the necessity of making some change by which the old people can be more remotely separated from the children. A committee has been appointed to investigate the feasibility of buying a small farm near the city, where the old people can be kept more quietly than they can be kept with the children. It is believed that such an arrangement would be more satisfactory, both in the care of the old people, as well as in the care and attention of the children, and will be desirable from the stand-point of economy. The Board is moving cautiously in this matter, and will only take the step when satisfied that it is practical, and will best promote the interests of the Home.

"I desire to congratulate the order on the good work done by the Sisters of the Eastern Star in the building of the beautiful chapel for the Home. It has been erected by the efforts of our never-tiring Sisters, at a cost to them of about \$3,500 or \$3,600, and it is a fit type of their earnestness and zeal for the welfare of our children. It is a most suitable place for the praise of our God by those who, through His kind providence, you are permitted to provide it. It will be as dear to the children as was the most holy place of the Tabernacle to the ancient Jews."

The recognition of the Gran Dicta of Mexico was deferred.

A resolution to resume membership in the General Masonic Relief Association was negatived.

The action of the Grand Lodge in the reduction of the minimum fee for the degrees from \$30 to \$20 is commended, as having given an impetus to greater activity in many of the country lodges.

The following amendment to the Grand Lodge by-laws was passed:

"A committee on ritual to whom shall be referred all proposed changes in the ritual before action is had thereon, and said committee shall report at the next annual communication such changes and conditions or eliminations of the ritual as they may think proper for the action of this Grand Lodge, and they are especially directed to recommend a set work for those portions of the work for which the claim has been made that they are optional."

The Grand Secretary presented his twentieth report on Correspondence, full of interesting matter. In his review of Colorado, we notice the following:

"Brother Greenleaf treated tersely, though briefly, the subject of the 'Antiquity of Masonry and the Degrees.' Quoting from some discourse delivered on the 24th of June, 1734, he gives us an extract from the sermon, that is to this writer endowed with too much nebulosity to be satisfactory or convincing. The extract reads as follows: 'They, the Free Masons, know that by the Third Heaven or Paradise is figured out the Third and chief Degree of Masonry.' What the preacher intended to convey by such a declaration in his sermon in 1734 may be left to conjecture. If the Third Degree has no better foundation in fact, than is deduced from the spiritual fervor of St. Paul, who was caught up into the Third Heaven, the tenability of the Third Degree is so attenuated and far removed from its practical and symbolical uses now, that we cannot realize assurance as to the link or nexus connecting the two subjects or ideas."

Lodges, 561; members, 30,616; loss, 173.

F. J. Tygard (Butler), G. M.

John D. Vincil (St. Louis), G. S.

MONTANA.

Oro y Plata.

“Rocks rich in gems and mountains big with mines.”

33rd Communication, Helena, Sept. 15, 1897.
Charles H. Gould, G. M.

The proposition from Maine as to rejected material was not adopted.

A resolution to authorize lodges to make twenty-five year members exempt from dues was proposed, but failed to carry, and the same fate befel a motion to reduce the fees for the degrees from \$50 to \$35.

The Grand Lodge of Tasmania, the Grand Orient of Greece and the Grand Orient of Italy were severally recognized.

The following resolution was adopted :

“*Resolved*, That it is the sense of this Grand Lodge that the best interests of masonry, and of those who are raised to the degree of a Master Mason, would be subserved by requiring each brother who has taken such degree to be examined as to his proficiency therein, and we recommend that Worshipful Masters require that such examination shall in every instance be had as requested in the resolution of the Thirtieth Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge relating thereto.”

The report on Correspondence is again by Bro. Cornelius Hedges, and it is needless to say that it is a first-class production in every respect. Our Proceedings of 1896 receive a very complimentary notice.

Lodges, 42 ; members, 2706 ; increase, So.
Edward C. Day (Helena), G. M.
Cornelius Hedges (Helena), G. S.

NEBRASKA.

Equality before the law

“We cannot suppose that some men have a right to be in this world and others no right.”

40th Communication, Lincoln, June 16, 1897.
Charles J. Phelps, G. M.

The opening paragraphs of the address of the Grand Master present a pleasing picture of material and mental prosperity :

“In our own state abundant rains and bounteous crops crowned the labors of the husbandmen in the year last past, and now in early summer Nebraska presents a beauty of landscape abounding

in luxurious foliage and growing crops which is altogether gratifying to the eye and the pride of her citizens.

“Freemasonry within our borders and generally wheresoever dispersed is in a prosperous condition. While its fundamental principles and its landmarks are unchangeable, yet it is a progressive science. Masonic study and research, archeological discoveries, and the best thought of wise and good men given to the consideration of its ceremonies and symbols, afford an explanation of their connection with ancient religions and philosophy as well as with the accepted truth in our own day. It is the privilege of every mason to realize this, but only by a study of its literature can one reap the full benefit of his privileges.”

The Grand Master exercised his high prerogative of making a Mason at sight. The recipient being his son, he can be excused or blamed as the opinion of the critic may vary. The Grand Lodge evidently wished the prerogative to remain in abeyance, and had no hesitation in expressing their disapproval of the proceeding. We give the remarks of the Grand Master, the report of the committee on jurisprudence, which was adopted, and the answer of that committee as to the standing of the son :

“A few years ago, I do not remember the year, nor have I the record of the event to aid my recollection, the Grand Master of Pennsylvania made of his son a Mason at sight.

‘The matter was pretty thoroughly discussed by masonic reviewers, and was generally approved by the better masonic jurists.

“My son, Harry E. Phelps, of Howell, Colfax county, Nebraska, desiring to be made a mason, I determined, after a careful review and consideration of masonic authorities, to exercise the prerogative, being satisfied beyond any question of doubt as to its existence, and on the 27th day of March, 1897, I called to my assistance our R. W. Brothers Frank H. Young, Grand Senior Warden, and William R. Bowen, Grand Secretary, W. Brother W. Wells, Master of Acacia Lodge, No. 34, and twenty-five other Master Masons, in the hall of Acacia Lodge, No. 34, at Schuyler, Nebraska; announced my purpose and declared that if no objection existed among the brethren present, I should proceed. No objection appearing, I called off, opened an Entered Apprentice Lodge, and again declaring my purpose if no objection was made, caused the candidate to be made a mason; following which I opened a lodge of Fellow Crafts, and in like manner, with all the precautions taken in the preceding degree, passed him to the degree of a Fellow Craft Mason, and then resuming work on the Master Masons degree, with like precautions raised him to the sublime degree of a Master Mason.

“The degrees were under my direction, in my presence, with the assistance of the above-named brethren, fully exemplified.

“My son has since applied for and obtained membership in Acacia Lodge, No. 34, of Schuyler, Nebraska, of which I have been a member ever since my initiation into Freemasonry.” * * *

"Your committee on jurisprudence beg leave to report that we have had under consideration the matter of making Harry E. Phelps a Mason, as reported in the address of the Grand Master.

"Without entering into a discussion of the question of whether or not the prerogative of making Masons at sight ever inhered in the office of Grand Master, we are of the opinion that, by reason of our situation and Masonic traditions, such prerogative does not inhere in the office of Grand Master in Nebraska. We therefore disapprove the action of the Grand Master in making his son, Harry E. Phelps, a Mason at sight, as reported in his address. The Grand Master is the creature of the constitution of this Grand Lodge, and his prerogatives are defined and limited thereby. * * *

"Query by Bro. Edgar D. Brown, 77 :

"What is the Masonic status of Harry E. Phelps, referred to by the Grand Master in his address, under the head of 'Occasional Lodge'?"

"Answer : Your committee on jurisprudence beg leave to report that in their opinion Harry E. Phelps is an irregularly made Mason, and recommend that the Grand Master, in person or by proxy, be directed to go to Schuyler, as soon as convenient, and heal said Harry E. Phelps in due Masonic manner, first requiring payment of the fees prescribed by the laws of the lodge within whose jurisdiction said Harry E. Phelps resided, for conferring of the three degrees of Masonry."

The committee on jurisprudence was composed of twenty-two Past Grand Masters.

The Grand Custodian held thirty-two lodges of instruction, and also visited a number of lodges singly. Upon his recommendation a special committee was appointed to preserve the work and to eliminate any superfluities or irregularities that may have crept in during the last thirty years.

A fire in their printing office prevented the publication of the usual review by the committee on Correspondence.

Lodges, 230; members, 11,763; decrease, 73.

John B. Dinsmore (Sutton), G. M.

William R. Bowen (Omaha), G. S.

NEVADA.

All for our country.

"Whose sun-bright summit mingles with the sky."

33rd Communication, Elko, June 8, 1897.

Enoch Struther, G. M.

The Grand Master is quite correct in his condemnation of unnecessary public appearances in Masonic clothing. We make the following extracts from his address :

“ December 30, 1896, Virginia Lodge, No. 3, requested permission to attend divine services at the Episcopal church on St. John's day. The request was refused for the reason that the extension thereof would have been in direct conflict with the laws and rulings of this Grand Lodge at its thirty-first annual Grand Communication. See Proceedings of 1895, page 299, under head of Decisions; also pages 312 and 313. Under said ruling, I must hold that members of a lodge, who desire to assemble for the sole purpose of attending religious services should not be permitted to wear their regalia on parade or at church, or any distinguishing emblems of the fraternity. Religious instructions can be received without the accompaniment of such ostentatious displays by the fraternity. * * *

“ Our relations with other Grand Jurisdictions are most cordial; peace, harmony and good will prevail within our own borders. I am sorry to say that the reports do not indicate any increase in our membership, but rather a slight decrease. We do not expect anything different until our principal industry, silver, is restored to its proper place among the money metals of the world; although business depression still continues, yet we have many things to be thankful for. Our brethren of this jurisdiction are well clothed, well fed, and have good beds to sleep in, for which we give thanks to our Supreme Grand Master of the Universe, and for the manifold blessings and comforts which surround us.”

The Wisconsin relief proposal was not concurred in.

The Grand Secretary reports on Correspondence and reviews Canada for 1896.

Lodges, 20; members, 832; decrease, 10.

Albert Lackey (Gold Hill), G. M.

A. D. Bird (Reno), G. S.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

“ Fair women and brave men.”

30th Communication, St. John, August 24, 1897.

Julius T. Whitlock, G. M.

The death is recorded of Bro. William F. Bunting, P. G. M., who was one of their most active and prominent brethren. He was the author of the History of Freemasonry in New Brunswick, and his zeal for the Craft never abated during the forty-five years of constant service which he gave to it.

The Grand Master very properly refused a request for a public installation, as “ not conducive to the interests of the Craft.”

The Grand Master of Nova Scotia was present, and was accorded a fitting reception.

On the perpetual jurisdiction question, the following deliverance was had :

“ WHEREAS, The principle of lodges having exclusive jurisdiction over rejected candidates for admission into the fraternity has not in the past prevailed in this jurisdiction ; and

“ WHEREAS, The provisions of our Constitution as to such rejected candidates have in the past been found to be satisfactory and sufficiently effective in guarding the interests of all parties ; which provisions are as follows :

‘ When an applicant who has been rejected in one lodge in this jurisdiction shall, after the expiration of six months, make application to another lodge for admission to the fraternity, the application may be received, but no ballot shall be taken thereon until the former lodge shall have been notified and shall have given its consent by resolution, certified by the Master and Secretary. The members of the lodge whose consent is asked must, previous to any action thereon, be notified of such application.’

“ *Therefore Resolved*, That this Board cannot recommend Grand Lodge to make the change in our Constitution by adopting the resolution proposed by the Grand Lodge of Maine ; and

“ *Further Resolved*, That the Grand Secretary be directed to forward a copy of the resolution to the Grand Lodge of Maine.”

The joint committee of the Grand Lodges of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia on establishing a Masonic Home, reported as follows :

“ *Resolved*, That this meeting, while affirming the desirability of establishing a Masonic Home for the Maritime Provinces, is strongly of opinion that the establishment of a sufficient fund should precede any other action to that end.

“ *Resolved*, That the whole matter be referred to the different Grand Lodges, with the request that each Grand Lodge, beside appealing to their subordinate lodges for contributions, will year by year contribute to a fund looking to the foundation of such a Home.

“ *Resolved*, That in case of the foregoing resolutions being carried out, that each Grand Lodge shall elect a trustee, who collectively shall be the custodians of such fund, said fund to be known as the Maritime Masonic Home Fund.

“ *Resolved*, That a copy of the foregoing resolutions be sent to each of the Grand Lodges in the Maritime Provinces.

“ The joint committee here assembled embraces this opportunity of expressing its strong conviction that closer fraternal relations between the Grand Lodges of Free and Accepted Masons of the Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island would tend greatly to promote the objects of our order :

“ *Therefore Resolved*, That this matter be referred to the several Grand Lodges, to the end that each Grand Lodge be requested to appoint a committee to jointly promulgate a scheme for the closer union of these Grand Lodges, and report the same in the year 1898 to the before mentioned Grand Lodges respectively.”

Whereupon the Grand Lodge passed the following :

"*Resolved*, That while the members of Grand Lodge would hail with satisfaction the establishment of a Masonic Home for the Maritime Provinces, yet they do not feel that the present condition of the funds of Grand Lodge would warrant any efficient pecuniary aid to this object;

"*Resolved, however*, That Grand Lodge will at any time give its best consideration to any well devised scheme for establishing and maintaining a Masonic Home;

"*Further Resolved*, That the Committee on Masonic Home be continued, and that in addition it consider the subject of closer fraternal relations with our sister Grand Lodges of the Maritime Provinces."

We also copy part of the report of the committee on the Grand Master's address. It contains a great deal of truth in a very few words:

"The committee recommend Grand Lodge to approve of the course of the Grand Master in not making a ruling in cases where no important point of masonic jurisprudence is involved, and where peace and harmony can be maintained without so doing.

"The committee are sure that Grand Lodge will agree with the Grand Master in thinking the true interests of the Craft better subserved by quiet work and consistent living than by public displays made solely for the purpose of winning popular favor."

The revision and amendment of the Constitution by the Board of General Purposes was considered and adopted.

Lodges, 31; members, 1,781; increase, 7.

Thomas Walker (St. John), G. M.

J. Twining Hartt (St. John), G. S.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

"He who writes verses builds in granite."

108th Communication, Concord, May 19, 1897.

Henry A. Marsh, G. M.

The address of the Grand Master contains the report of their delegate to Hungary:

"DEAR SIR AND M. W. BROTHER,—It was my good fortune last summer to be the bearer of the commission from the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire to the Masonic Lodges of Hungary, on the occasion of the dedication of their new Masonic Temple in Budapest, on the 21st of June.

"I deemed it an honor to be the bearer of the official greetings from New Hampshire Masons to their brethren of Hungary, and felt doubly honored when I presented my commission, to be the recipient of such lavish attention as was paid me, as a representative of American Free Masonry.

"It was an occasion calculated to inspire any man who loves the order and knows something of its history and meaning, and

has certainly impressed me with a deeper sense of the real meaning of brotherly love.

"The occasion was that to which all Hungarian Masons had been looking with intense earnestness, for after years of hard work and self-sacrifice, because of Austrian governmental antagonism to secret societies, they were more than rejoiced to find they had a home of their own erected and paid for. They were happy also to find that their brethren from the Great Republic were rejoicing with them, as evidenced by the presence of myself and companion, who bore the commission from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, and were at a loss for words to express their gratitude to us for interesting ourselves in their welfare.

"They made us the bearers of their affectionate greetings to those whom we represented, with their prayer for the success of Masonry in America.

"The new Temple is a beautiful structure, containing all the apartments necessary, including a very large lodge-room, decorated in Egyptian style, and a banquet hall, with all the necessary ante-rooms. It is an ornament to their beautiful city, well worthy of the pride of those who aided in its erection.

"At the banquet which followed the dedication ceremonies I was called upon to speak the sentiments of the hour, and in a few words extended to them the greetings and well-wishes of American Masons, who rejoiced with them in the completion of their beautiful Temple and in the evident success of Hungarian Masonry.

"It was one of the most cherished opportunities of my life, and an occasion which can never be effaced from my memory; and to you, sir, as the Grand Master of Masons, I am indebted for the honor of bearing to those earnest craftsmen the fraternal greetings of New Hampshire Masons.

"Thanking you for the honor conferred upon me, I am,

"Fraternally yours,

"JOHN VANNEVAR.

"Eureka Lodge, Concord, N. H."

The reports of the District Deputies give full details of the condition of the lodges. The general standard of the work is high, the lodges are prosperous, and harmony prevails.

Their adherence to the generally condemned doctrine of perpetual jurisdiction over rejected candidates was again announced.

The Grand Lodge of New Zealand was recognized.

The following resolution was adopted:

"*Resolved*, That the ritual of the Grand Lodge be amended, so as to transpose the instruction given the candidate as to the manner of wearing the apron in the second and third degrees. And that the Grand Lecturer be instructed to make the changes necessary to conform thereto."

Bro. Albert S. Waite presented another of his very able reports on Correspondence, in which he reviews

Canada for 1896. In his notice of Maryland he has the following sensible remarks on objections after a favorable ballot :

“ Upon this subject, it was among our earliest instructions, that an objecting brother after a favorable ballot had the right to object without disclosing his reasons, and in that case it was an absolute bar to the candidate ; but that if the objector chooses to disclose his reasons, he thereby submits them to the judgment of the lodge. We are aware that since then decisions have been made in accordance with this one from Delaware, and it is our impression that they have been more generally that way. We have never been able to divest our mind of the impression, however, that our early instructions were the better doctrine. We not only concede, but we insist upon the doctrine that a brother has a right, peremptorily, to debar an elected candidate from receiving the degrees, and that he is not obliged to disclose his reasons. But, supposing he voluntarily makes them known, and that they appear to be frivolous or unmasonic, for instance, that the candidate belongs to a different church, or entertains different political sentiments from the objecting brother. Why should such an objection be allowed to prevail ? It seems to us that if a brother is unwilling to have his objections subjected to criticism, he should keep them to himself, when he will of course be protected ; but if he makes them public, we see no reason why the lodge should not judge them.”

Lodges, 77 ; members, 9111 ; increase, 148.

Henry A. Marsh (Nashua), G. M.

George P. Cleaves (Concord), G. S.

NEW JERSEY.

“ Sing now the lusty song of fruits and flowers.”

111th Communication, Trenton, January 26, 1898.

Geo. W. Fortmeyer, G. M.

The Grand Master was prevented by illness from visiting the lodges except in a few cases. On the benefits of their District Grand Lodges of Instruction, he says :

“ The expenses incurred in holding our District Grand Lodges of instruction are, in my judgment, more than offset by the great benefit derived from them in diffusing a more thorough knowledge of the esoteric work among the officers of the lodges, and for the opportunity of bringing them together in closer touch officially and socially than could be done in the ordinary routine of lodge work. Those who are Grand Lodge Officers and have opportunity of noting these things in the discharge of official duty, believe the necessity for their continuance is most pronounced. I allude to this feature of our work particularly, because, while we should exercise economy in the expenses of administration, we should at the same time, be careful not to curtail at that point where the results might eventually prove disastrous.”

On the state of the craft and the necessity for careful scrutiny into the characters of candidates, Bro. Fortmeyer's words deserve special attention :

"Notwithstanding the depression of the times, the dulness of trade and the disturbed condition of commercial affairs during the past year our subordinate lodges have been fairly blessed with additions to their membership, and the net result for our entire jurisdiction shows a marked increase over previous years. This is most gratifying, but, at the same time, it has within it elements of danger. Anxiety on the part of the Worshipful Master and officers of the lodge to make a 'record-breaking year' is too apt to engender carelessness or indifference in a thorough scrutiny of the necessary qualifications of candidates, as imposed by the ancient laws and regulations of our fraternity, and too late, when an unworthy brother is discovered within the precincts of our Temple, sowing seeds of discord and disturbing the peace and harmony which should prevail, we deplore the imperfect work of the Investigating Committee, and the haste which characterized the acceptance of the candidate. Let me urge upon you the necessity of extreme caution and the exercise of a wise discretion in considering the petitions of applicants for the privileges of masonry. As we are taught, let the internal and not the external qualifications of a man recommend him, and follow not the *ignis-fatuus* of *quantity* rather than *quality* in the building up, on a sure foundation, the welfare and prosperity of your lodge."

The establishment of a Masonic Home in this jurisdiction is a noble work now fully accomplished. One year ago, a committee was appointed. They collected over \$28,000, bought a suitable property, with fine buildings, all completely furnished, and ready for immediate occupancy. The per capita tax was increased by thirty cents per member, to provide for its maintenance, and each initiate is to pay \$2 extra to go towards a Permanent Fund for its support.

It was decided that an amendment to the Constitution prohibiting the Craft from re-electing a brother to the office of Grand Master, was contrary to the Ancient Landmarks of the fraternity.

The committee on History continued their labors, with the result that the lodges from Nos. 74 to 145 had prepared their Historical Records, with full lists of all their officers and members, and the same were filed with the Grand Secretary.

The following report was adopted :

"Your Committee on Jurisprudence respectfully report upon the recommendation of the Grand Lodge of Maine that 'the effect of a rejection should be limited to five years,' that they see no good reason why any lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction should

be called upon to surrender, after the elapse of any specified or limited time, its jurisdiction over rejected material."

Bro. George B. Edwards reviews the proceedings of sixty-one Grand Jurisdictions in 154 pages. He is an able writer, with clever and original ideas, and his reports are a pleasure to read. In his notice of Alabama, he says :

"The sacredness of Masonic Funds, either those of a Grand or subordinate body, has always appeared to this reviewer to be one of the great bugbears of masonry. The funds should be eligible for the uses and purposes of the fraternity for whom, or for whose requirements they have been gathered. To surround the treasury with a constitutional quick-fence that places it out of reach of its legitimate possessors, or their purposes, is an absurdity. Is it a more sacred application of funds to pay out a portion thereof for the occupancy of the living than for the occupancy of the dead? Is the purchase of paregoric to allay a stomachache so much more appropriate than tombstone recorded virtue?"

Canada for 1897 receives favorable mention.

The following is from "Oklahoma" :

"One of the decisions rendered: 'Is one who is named as a partner in a cold-storage depot and wholesale dealer in malt liquors disqualified for receiving the degrees in Masonry?' 'No.' *Certes*, this liquor traffic question, as it bobs up here and there, presents some grotesqueness. Whether the Masonic salvation of the man in whose behalf the decision was rendered was dependent upon the 'cold-storage,' the 'wholesale dealer' or the 'malt' that was connected to the liquor, it would be difficult to determine. The season might have some bearing on the question; as a summer applicant the cold-storage would certainly be a commendable qualification, while in a winter applicant it would lose the sentiment."

Bro. Blatt, of South Dakota, gets this conundrum to solve :

"Although so warm an exactor on the non-departure principle from the standards of the fathers, in the current report he is found as an advocate for making a ritual for funeral ceremonies applicable to the practice of incineration. Incited by the views of another, that the present services were inappropriate, he says: 'Why not make one? We like cremation. It will be the burial of the future.' Is it to be understood from the words 'We like cremation,' that the brother has spoken from experience; that he has been purified by the exhaustive force of fire, and that he presents his report from the very ashes of memory and intellect?"

Lodges, 167; members, 16,543; increase, 433.

Josiah W. Ewan (Mount Holly), G. M.

Thomas H. R. Redway (Trenton), G. S.

NEW MEXICO.

Crescit eundo.

“ Whose constant cares were to increase his store.”

20th Communication, Albuquerque, Oct. 4, 1897.

Charles Bowmer, G. M.

On the revision of the work, the Grand Master says :

“ This subject of revision has occupied the attention of this Grand body for a number of years, yet still remains an open one.

“ So far as I have found, the work of the lodges visited by me approaches nearer the wording of that used by us in former years than of that now promulgated. Here let me say that on every occasion that I have listened to the Grand Lecturer's rendition of the present wording of the work he has never varied, the exact wording being identical at each and every lodge of instruction. Uniformity in our work is beyond all cavil highly important ; how best to attain it, a difficult question to answer.

“ In some of the older Grand Jurisdictions the desire is for a return to as nearly as possible the exact wording employed at the outset of our present Free and Accepted Masonry. Could this be reached by all Grand Jurisdictions we might hope for universal uniformity. Most of you will say somewhat ‘ Utopian.’ For my own part, I cannot but wish that much of the old wording had not been changed, as I fail to see that it has been improved by the departures from it.

“ I would suggest that at the present session we listen attentively to the wording of the work now in the keeping of our brother, the Grand Lecturer. Should some of us be under the conviction that certain departures have crept in, and a majority of those present coincide with these views, the adoption of the wording expressed by the majority would assuredly tend to the acquisition of uniformity more readily than for a majority to have to unlearn the lessons of past years.

“ Would it not be well for us to get down to this work at the present session, and make a practical commencement of a standard work for the Grand Jurisdiction. By so doing we can aid the committee on revision, and make their task a much easier one by hearing what seems to be the best, in the opinion of the majority, to attain this desirable end.”

The Grand Lecturer travelled 1100 miles in visiting four lodges.

A committee was appointed to revise the Constitution.

The following report was adopted :

“ We are pleased to note that no necessity has arisen for any decisions from the Grand Master, as it speaks well for the knowledge of the Craft in general.

“ As regards the question of ritual revision, we believe that the welfare of the Craft will be best served by the adoption of a resolution as follows :

“ That the incoming Grand Master shall appoint three Master Masons as a permanent Committee of the Grand Lodge, who shall

be known as the Custodians of the Ritual of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico.

“ These shall hold their offices for terms of five years each, and the Grand Master shall have power to fill any vacancies that may occur.

“ The Custodians shall make such revision as sense, grammar and tradition may require, and their decision as to the correct work for New Mexico shall be obligatory on the Craft, until otherwise ordered by the Grand Lodge.

“ The Custodians of the Ritual shall formulate the necessary changes as speedily as possible and shall not make any alterations after they have been formulated, other than may be absolutely demanded.

“ The Grand Lecturer shall be responsible to the Custodians for his teaching and he may or may not be one of their number, as the Grand Master deem wise and proper.

“ In regard to the Wisconsin relief project, while several of the lodges to whom it was referred have failed to act thereon, we feel that the consideration of this subject should be taken up at this session of the Grand Lodge, and we recommend that this Grand Lodge do not accept the same.”

Bro. Max Frost presented a very good report on Correspondence. He has the faculty of selection, and his comments are those of a thinker. He has not received our proceedings of 1897.

Lodges, 20; members, 854; decrease, 40.

John W. Poe (Roswell), G. M.

Alpheus A. Keen (Albuquerque), G. S.

NEW SOUTH WALES.

“ Have you summoned your wits from wool-gathering? ”

Proceedings from June, 1896 to June, 1897.

Sir Joseph Palmer Abbot, G. M.

Quarterly Communication, Sydney, Sept. 9, 1896.

The following extracts from the report of the Board of General Purposes will give an idea of the heterogeneous matters coming before them, and their manner of dealing with them :

“ Lodge Homebush, No. 201.—A letter was received from this lodge, stating that as the M. W. the Grand Master had withdrawn his consent to their meeting in their present lodge room, and as they could not get any other room in the neighborhood to meet in, they were ready to surrender their Charter when it was convenient to receive same, and asking that the sum of £50 be voted to them from the Grand Lodge funds to pay off an over-draft due to the Bank. The letter was received, and the Board resolved that when the assets of the lodge are realized, and the loss ascertained, a statement of their affairs may be submitted for further consideration.

“Lodge Richmond River, No. 77.—A letter was received from this lodge, asking if a brother who had been excluded for non-payment of dues, offered the lodge part payment of the amount due, could the lodge accept it and grant him a clearance. The Board resolved that the lodge could not accept a less sum than the amount due by the excluded brother, and referred the lodge to the case of Bro. Card, decided by Grand Lodge on the 14th March, 1894.

“Lodge Palmerston, No. 31—A letter was received from this lodge, and also from five members of the lodge, to the effect that the bank had foreclosed on the mortgage of the Hall property, and issued Supreme Court writs for the recovery of the cash credit bond, and asking if the Grand Lodge would help them in the matter. The Board resolved that it was with extreme regret they could not entertain the request.

“Lodge Richmond River, No. 77.—A letter was received from the Wor. Master of the lodge, asking that if an Entered Apprentice could vote. The Board replied in the affirmative, and referred the writer to the decision of the Grand Lodge on 12th June, 1889.

“Lodge Prince of Wales, No. 109, Rylstone—An application was received, signed by five old members of this lodge, and also by other masons residing in the District, asking for the return of the Charter, the lodge having ceased working in February, 1891. The Board resolved that the M. W. the Grand Master be recommended to re-issue the old Warrant to the remaining five members of that lodge, on the proviso that they pay the quarterage to Grand Lodge, accruing since the date of the last return.

“A letter was read from Bro. Dean Marriott, sent to the M. W. the Grand Master, asking if assistance could be afforded him in reference to the loss he had sustained in becoming Trustee for the Masonic Hall, Bathurst. The Board resolved that whilst deeply regretting the unfortunate position that the brother had been placed in, in connection with this hall, they could not recommend the Grand Lodge to vote money for the purpose, as applications of a similar nature had already been refused.”

The report of the Grand Inspector of Workings gives a clear view of the state of the Craft :

“In the Metropolis the applicants for the Degrees have been fairly numerous; and, evidently, due caution is observed in the lodges to ensure that men of sterling character only shall be able to pass the test of the ballot. A gratifying degree of excellence is noticeable in the proceedings of the majority of the lodges, and only in a few isolated cases was it apparent, that more care and application than were evinced, were necessary to produce the requisite satisfactory standard of proficiency.

“I have noticed with pleasure the growing tendency to exchange fraternal visits. On one occasion no less than three lodges simultaneously visited a sister lodge, and materially added to the attractiveness and enjoyment of the proceedings. I trust this custom will be zealously cultivated, and the brethren enjoined to perform so necessary a duty.

“In order to secure the fullest advantage from visitations, it is desirable that they should not be confined to flourishing lodges,

but that the strong should, as frequently as expedient, visit the weak and languishing, and by their presence and assistance induce the despairing remnant of a lodge to strive for its restoration to life and vigor. A struggling and disheartened lodge, neglected and left to its fate, may very readily become a source of danger to the craft in its eagerness to gain members, and possibly questionable proceedings and methods may result if the fraternal critic is continually absent.

"In the suburbs the same careful routine and high standard that have hitherto distinguished the lodges are still observable; and it is extremely creditable that some lodges which have had no accession of new members for lengthy periods are still flourishing, harmonious, and sanguine as to the future.

"The country inspector's report in a very hopeful strain; good work is being done, the attendances are generally encouraging, and it is apparent that the brethren are laboring with stout heart, and are hopefully awaiting the advent of prosperity. Lodge 22, Wagga, which had lapsed into decadence, has been re-opened, many old and influential members have re-joined, and the outlook is bright. Lodges 61 and 93, Albury, intend to hold their installation meeting conjointly, and the outcome of the function may probably be the fusion of the two lodges into one strong lodge, which suggests the reflection that it is a matter for earnest consideration whether the city lodges might not, with advantage, unite in celebrating their annual festivals, with resultant economy of funds, and possible consolidation of lodges. Lodge Tumut Unity, which lost all its property by fire, and Federal Lodge, Murrumburrah, have resumed work with fair prospects.

"I have observed that the spirit of enquiry as to correct Masonic methods is very rife, and have to thank the brethren for the attention they have devoted to any criticism I have offered for the improvement of lodge work. I would express the hope that any moot points may, on convenient occasion, be introduced for discussion and be definitely decided. In this connection I would refer to the mode frequently adopted in balloting, where there are two or more candidates, viz., the spreading of the ballot for the proponents *in globo*. This practice is irregular, for reasons which will be apparent on consideration. I would also remark that the method of investiture by proxy, occasionally adopted, should be avoided. It is just as absurd to attempt to invest, as to endeavor to instal, by proxy. Material gifts can be imparted per medium of a substitute, intellectual never, with proper effect."

Quarterly Communication, Dec. 9, 1896.

A lodge was fined \$10 for having initiated a candidate without having made the necessary enquiries.

The Grand Inspector says:

"A very pleasing feature has been the deliverance of lectures in several lodges when no degree work was available. These lectures are instructive and much appreciated. We have in our ranks many skilled exponents of the various branches of the liberal arts and sciences, and it is highly desirable that they should be induced to impart the results of their studies to their less fortunate or less able brethren, thus enlivening many otherwise dull

evenings, and, at the same time, elevating the intellectual standard of the craft."

Quarterly Communication, March 10, 1897.

The death is announced of Bro. Colonel C. F. Stokes, P. G. M., and who was the first Deputy Grand Master of the Grand Lodge.

The Board recommended to Grand Lodge :

"That no Entered Apprentice, or Fellow Craft, initiated or passed in any lodge, not under the jurisdiction of the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales, shall, so long as he remains a member of that lodge be passed or raised in any lodge, under the jurisdiction of the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales, without the consent in writing of the Wor. Master and Wardens of the lodge in which he was initiated or passed."

Another lodge was admonished, and requested to refrain from making any important deviation from the Ritual.

The sum of \$200 was voted to Homebush Lodge to assist in the liquidation of of the debts of the lodge.

The country lodges report good work and gratifying progress, "shaded with tales of adversity, and in some cases of decadence, which induce sober reflection as to the cause and necessary remedy." The reproach of want of punctuality, referred to in the last report of the Inspector, has almost disappeared.

The sum of fifty guineas was voted towards the relief of the sufferers of a lamentable disaster which occurred at the coal mines at Stockton.

Quarterly Communication, June 9, 1897.

The Grand Lodge came to the assistance of Cambrian Lodge, No. 10, the validity of whose existence was being tested in the Law Courts, and assumed the expense of the defence of the suit. Over \$2,000 was paid in law costs, but the result of the suit is not given. Pending these proceedings, it seems that visits from members of lodges still working under the English Constitution are not to be allowed :

"Re Admission of Visitors.—The Grand Inspector reported that certain Brethren, claiming to be members of the Cambrian Lodge, No. 656, English Constitution, had visited our lodges, and he considered that while legal proceedings were pending testing the validity of that Lodge, it was undesirable that such visitation should be allowed. The Board adopted the Inspector's report."

We take the following from the address of the Deputy Grand Master :

“Brethren,—The time has again arrived when it is my duty to say a few words to you, relative to the general state of the craft in this territory.

“At our last annual meeting I had to direct your attention to a large falling off, both in the number of registered members and in the total revenue of this Grand Lodge. As the returns to date are not yet available, I am not able to say whether our membership has increased during the year or not, but I am in a position to state that our revenue for the year and our assets show a very substantial increase.

“Last year, although five new warrants had been issued, our total income showed a deficiency of £360 18s. 6d. This year, with no new warrants issued, and one surrendered, our income shows a net increase of £284 8s. 4d.; our total income having been £3,633 4s. 5d., as compared with £3,347 16s. 1d. for the preceding year.

“Owing to the fact that we have been called upon during the year to make one large extraordinary payment (£450 law costs), our Grand Lodge assets show a decrease of £151 17s. 2d.; but our fund of benevolence, on the other hand, having been subject to no such extraordinary expenditure, has increased by the sum of £822 9s. 3d. Taking the two funds together, our total assets show an increase of £670 12s. 1d., which is £49 16s. 8d. more than last year, notwithstanding the payment for law costs.

“The total relief granted by the board of benevolence during the year just ended, amounted to £969 13s. 9d., which is less than the preceding year by the sum of £135 9s. 9d.

“I think, brethren, that the foregoing facts and figures point to a very satisfactory conclusion. I expressed the opinion, twelve months ago, that the too rapid increase of members and lodges was an element of weakness to the craft. The statistics of the order for the past year or two point to the fact that the recklessly rapid increase of lodges and members has ceased, and that our order in New South Wales has settled down upon a solid foundation of substantial prosperity.

“This fact is, to me, extremely gratifying. I took some part in the union of Freemasonry in New South Wales. During the nine years that has elapsed since the union was consummated, I have devoted considerable time, some little energy, and the best ability I could command, to the craft, having one single object in view—the consolidation of that union. In surrendering my trust, and leaving the work in your hands, I feel that my object has been accomplished, and that the United Grand Lodge of New South Wales is as solid, as impregnable, and as dignified a body as any similar body in the world. I know that the work of Freemasonry in this colony is being performed by the brethren at large, with a keen desire to realize the glorious principles and tenets of the institution, and to promulgate amongst its members—and through them to the outside world—the purest principles of Brotherly Love, Relief, and Truth. So long as I may live, I shall always feel proud to think that I have had some share in the achievement of this result.”

Bro. John B. Trivett is the author of a very excellent

report on Correspondence, in which our proceedings of 1895 and 1896 receive careful attention.

Lodges, 188; members, 6,934; decrease, 151.

Sir Joseph Palmer Abbott (Sidney), G. M.

Arthur H. Bray (Sidney), G. S.

NEW YORK.

Excelsior.

“Some are and must be greater than the rest.”

116th Communication, New York, June 1st, 1897.

John Stewart, G. M.

The Grand Master visited nearly every part of the jurisdiction. He decided that a candidate previously rejected in another jurisdiction and now a resident of New York, could not be initiated in New York without first complying with the law of the jurisdiction in which he had been rejected.

The Reserve Fund of the Masonic Hall and Asylum now amounts to more than \$200,000, all safely invested. In the report of the Trustees we find the following:

“The large increase in the number of inmates in the Home has multiplied the calls on the Masonic brethren of the medical profession of Utica, but while the time and attention required have, no doubt, seriously interfered with their private practice, their fidelity and zeal have continued unabated, and the thanks of the fraternity are due them for their gratuitous services.

“To the clergy and the members of several religious societies of Utica we tender our heartfelt thanks for their noble assistance; they have indeed brightened many an hour, and left sweet memories that will remain to the end of time.

“By referring to the Superintendent’s report, you will see that the cost of maintaining each inmate has been \$191.52 for the year; this is \$20.73 less per capita than last year.

“This reduction in cost is largely due to the fact that, while the number of inmates has been increased, the working force has remained about the same.

“No part of this reduction has been attained by any change in the quantity or quality of merchandise purchased, for the Trustees believe that true economy consists in always procuring the best of everything required. * * *

“The ‘Memorial Building,’ which was erected for the use of the children only, has proved the wisdom of our determination to separate ‘youth from old age.’

“We find that the comfort of both has been materially increased, and our children show a marked improvement in their appearance, and also in their mental and moral training.

“The Trustees believe that the day is very close at hand when

it will be necessary to erect another children's building, so the sexes may be separated. * * *

"Our increased facilities have enable us to so amend our rules that since the beginning of this year we have accepted all worthy applicants whom the State law would allow us to receive and care for.

"Up to that time they were a number of brothers whose infirmities appealed to our deepest sympathies, but a lack of accommodation compelled us to reject them.

"This class of applicants became so numerous that, in order to properly accommodate them, we have procured, pursuant to the resolution of Grand Lodge, plans for an addition to the east wing of the main building.

"It is our intention that this addition shall have all the conveniences of an infirmary and hospital, with two wards so isolated that they may be used for inmates contracting contagious diseases.

"We are now advertising for bids for the erection of said addition, and hope, ere the close of the present year, to have that part of the building ready for occupancy.

"As will be seen by reference to the Superintendent's report, we have increased the number of inmates from 151, as given in last report, to 186, the number in our care April 1, 1897.

"The applications have been greatly increased during the past year. In the month of April the Trustees acted upon twenty-two applications.

"We desire most earnestly to impress upon each member of the fraternity the necessity of a stricter examination into the merits of each application submitted for approval. The papers are often deficient in the information that should be furnished.

"We suspect that, occasionally, information is wilfully withheld and once during this year the Trustees were compelled to order a lodge to remove a brother who was suffering from a loathsome contagious disease, not mentioned in the papers.

"We also have reason to suspect that unaffiliates are sometimes reinstated for the sole purpose of placing them in the Home. This is a practice that cannot be too strongly deprecated, as, were our doors thrown open for the indiscriminate admission of such, our Home would soon become filled, to the exclusion of those 'who have borne the heat and burden of the day.'"

The Home staff numbers 29 persons. The Superintendent gives the details of the returns from the farm, and then says :

"A fair estimate of the value of these products is, for vegetables, \$600; for stock purposes, \$1,000—an aggregate of \$1,600.

"The income from the piggery (using up the garbage from the Home) has furnished 3,037 pounds of pork (\$482.12) used in the Home, and we now have on hand thirty-five pigs, two sows, and one boar.

"The live stock represents one bull and fourteen cows—valued at \$607—besides which we are raising one yearling bull and heifer.

"This department has produced 39,260 quarts of milk used in the Home (\$1,177.80) and two calves (18.55).

"The items of pork, milk, and eggs are included in the expense

account, and credited to 'Farm Produce Sold and Used,' viz.: \$1,787.93."

Bro. Peter Ross, who has succeeded the lamented Charles T. McClenachan as the Historian of the Grand Lodge, presented the following interesting report :

"Dear Sir and Brother: It seems fitting at this time to submit, on the part of the Historian of Grand Lodge, a somewhat lengthier report than is usual or than is needful under ordinary circumstances.

"The death, in December last, of R. W. Charles T. McClenachan, who so long filled the office, and filled it so well, calls for more than passing notice.

"So far as his personal history is concerned, little remains to be added to the modest story of his career, which he incorporated in the fourth volume of his 'History of Freemasonry in New York,' excepting to record his latest appointment, that of Representative here of the Grand Lodge of New South Wales. His tenure of this appointment dated from January 16, 1894, and he held it until, to quote his own words, he heard 'the Warden's cry of 'High Twelve.'

"Previous to receiving that appointment, he had for years worthily represented here the Grand Lodge of his native State of Pennsylvania.

"Charles T. McClenachan had long been prominently identified with Freemasonry, and held high rank in many of its fields.

"As a compiler or adapter of work connected with the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, his labors were, in particular, much valued, and called forth high commendation.

"But it is as Historian of this Grand Lodge, and as the author of the 'History of Freemasonry in New York,' published under its direction, that his memory will longest be preserved.

"No one who understands the requirements of such a work can fail to appreciate the exacting labors, the unwearied exertion, the infinite patience, the judicial temperament, and the necessity of absolute honesty which are all implied in the mental equipment of of a conscientious historian.

"All these qualities Charles T. McClenachan possessed in an unwonted degree. As a result, the Grand Lodge of the State of New York is in possession of a set of four volumes detailing its history, of which any grand body in the world might well be proud; and in writing these volumes Bro. McClenachan unconsciously erected to his memory a more enduring monument than could be constructed in marble or granite.

"That history, as printed in four volumes, carries the story of Freemasonry in this State, in connection with Grand Lodge, down to the election of Frederick A. Burnham as Grand Master in 1893.

"I have, since my appointment, carried on that history through the administrations of M. W. Brothers Burnham and Hodge, and am now at work on the story of the two terms which the Grand Lodge has passed under your able direction.

"The story of these years has been written more fully than Bro. McClenachan attempted to treat the later administrations it was his province to record. This is done so that when, in the course

of time, Grand Lodge may see fit to order a continuation of what has been printed, the material may be found in the shape of an ample sketch of each year's history, ready and at hand in the archives of the Historian's office. This work is deemed to be the duty of the Historian, and is done as fully as possible, so that in the future whoever undertakes the printing of such material can enlarge or condense what has been written without the expenditure of much time in research.

"Such work as that which falls to the office of Historian, or much of it, can best be done by one who performs the duty with the light of contemporaneous knowledge. Even should such annual summaries never be printed, their value as records will increase with the merciless march of time.

"History is not merely the presentation of a set of names of officials, or the detailing in a few formal, colorless words, the story of particular happenings. Such is the province of the Secretary's minutes, or of official reports.

"True history deals with events rather than with individuals, except when, as very often happens, an individual so towers above his fellows, that his will, his ideas, his ambition, his innate possession of power visibly controls and directs them.

"Then, again the mere fact of a man being appointed to high office is not complete information from a historical point of view we desire to know what manner of man he was; what points or gifts he displayed that he should be selected from among his fellows for what particular work; how he acquitted himself therein; and estimate how much the office he held was benefited by his tenure of it.

"So much for individuals.

"But we must remember that a body of about one hundred thousand men, having as the foundation of their union and as the guide of their meetings and the inspiration of their work, the priceless volume which they reverently call the Great Light of Masonry, cannot but exert a marked influence for good on the community in which they dwell.

"It should be the duty of the historian to watch that influence, to describe its progress, and to trace its operation on the general history of the State.

"We must not permit the idea to go forth that Freemasons are merely a set of genial fellows, kindly disposed toward one another, but who keep all their admitted good qualities to themselves.

"We must, rather, by our actions, by our thoughts, by our inspirations, by our conduct in public, and by our spoken words outside as well as inside of our lodge-rooms, show that we desire, directly and unmistakably, to bring our principles and our teachings to bear for the general improvement of the common-wealth and the moral advancement of the individual.

"This we, consciously and unconsciously, are really doing; and it is one of the duties of the historian to show this fully and to what extent.

"With this in view it seems important that the work of writing the history of the Grand Lodge should be continuously performed, so that in the future the historian of the Grand Lodge, writing of the past, should have before him the great benefit of contemporary narrative.

“In making this statement, I have fully in mind the fact that, in 1893, the Grand Lodge committee on finance recommended that, ‘until further instructions by Grand Lodge, all work on the history of Freemasonry in this State, heretofore authorized, be discontinued,’ and that this recommendation was adopted by Grand Lodge. I take it, however, in view of the circumstances which induced the resolution, that it referred to all work which required further printing, in the shape of additions to what was already in type and in the hands of the Grand Lodge. The time is not ripe, it seems to me, to add to Bro. McClenachan’s general history of Grand Lodge.

“At the same time, it is well to call attention to the fact that Bro. McClenachan’s four volumes, even for the time he set out to chronicle, are incomplete, and therefore we have in them an imperfect work.

“He designed to complete it with a history of separate lodges in a concluding volume.

“In his opening pages in Volume I of his work, he very clearly set this forth, and in the first two volumes, especially, he passed over many matters of interest with the assurance that he would treat them more fully in the volume relating to separate lodge histories. All through the work the reader finds references to this concluding section of the history, and with these references staring the reader in the face, the four magnificent volumes which unfold our history cannot be regarded as a complete and perfect whole.

“While, as a student of Masonic history, I would desire to see such a volume added to the four already published, it is not my purpose to recommend Grand Lodge to enter upon it. That is a subject for Grand Lodge itself to direct, according to its wisdom and wishes.

“But I earnestly recommend that the historian be permitted to gather the material for such a volume as Bro. McClenachan designed.

“Such material could readily be gathered at no more cost to Grand Lodge than the printing of a circular defining the information wanted, and addressed to the lodges throught the State—a circular which could be issued at any time, and with other material, from the Grand Secretary’s office.

“I append a form of circular which, in my judgment, would bring to the office of the historian the necessary information on which such a history could be based, leaving more particular points which might arise, and on which further details might be deemed necessary, to be enlarged upon by correspondence.

“Such information should be, at all events, in possession of Grand Lodge in a condensed and readily accessible form. The sooner it is acquired the better. The veterans in the craft are continually dropping off, and old stories and traditions are being forgotten. Much has already been lost, and it is well that, without delay, we should gather up what remains.

“With such a fund of information as would be brought into existence by this circular and its attendant correspondence, the office of historian would have a series of valuable records at hand on which to base any future work that might be ordered by Grand Lodge, and be able to answer any question on the history of Ma-

sonry throughout this State, and concerning those who were and are its leaders. That information once obtained could be added to from year to year with comparatively little trouble.

"I have already had a pleasant correspondence on Masonic historical subjects with many of our older lodges, and I desire to acknowledge the readiness and courtesy with which R. W. E. M. L. Ehlers, Grand Secretary, has aided me in my search after historic light.

"In conclusion, I beg to thank you, M. W. Grand Master, for my appointment as Historian. The office is one that is in line with my personal studies, and its duties are in every way congenial to me. I have no desire to make the office an expensive one to Grand Lodge, having long passed the stage of weakness which induces a man to be eager to rush into print, but I have a strong desire, by the gathering of material, to make the office one that will add to the dignity of the craft. The office of the Historian should be ever ready to demonstrate the grand truths that the mission of Freemasonry has been and is one of beneficence to the State at large, while from its ranks have graduated men who have adorned every public station and dignified and promoted all that men hold dear.

"I trust, M. W. Sir, that your future life may be full of happiness; that you may continue in your career of well-doing, and that your interest in the craft may remain unabated through the many years of active life, which, I hope, Providence has in store for you.

"QUESTIONS SUGGESTED FOR PROPOSED CIRCULAR.

- "1. Name of lodge and location.
- "2. Date of warrant, and give all names which appear on it.
- "3. Has the name, the number, or the location of lodge been changed since its institution?
- "4. Does the lodge possess any relics, souvenirs, etc., in the way of portraits, old charters, medals, jewels, and the like? If so, give description and history of each as far as possible.
- "5. Are your minute books intact from the institution of your lodge?
- "6. Have any lodges previously existed in your town, or in the territory covered by your lodge? If so, give name, numbers, and probable date of abandonment.
- "7. Does your lodge own its meeting place? If so, when was it erected? What is it worth?
- "8. Has your lodge history ever been written and printed? If so, give date of publication, and state if a copy is in possession of Grand Lodge. If in manuscript, say if it can be loaned to Grand Historian should need be.
- "9. If history has never been written, give a synopsis of it here. Detail each event as briefly as possible, and always give dates. Accuracy in these is essential.
- "10. What local or county history mentions your lodge and is likely to contain the most information about your members in the past?
- "11. Give the names of any distinguished Craftsmen who have belonged to your lodge, men who have been distinguished in Freemasonry or in any walk of life.

"12. Names of officers, Master, Wardens, Treasurer, and Secretary, with date of election."

The Board of Relief, with Bro. John R. Pope as president, continue their praise-worthy labors with the most careful fidelity. We note a few of the cases which came before them, in order to show their methods of work :

"Case 1,322. From Jamaica, West Indies, with wife and two children. Sent by Oakland, Cal., Board of Relief to New Orleans under the impression that a steamer sailed from there to Jamaica. Sent here by New Orleans Board of Relief, and by us to his home. An excellent case for generous outlay, and gladly helped.

"Case 1,326. Once a prosperous merchant and prominent Mason of this State. Became an unaffiliated twenty-two years ago, having no time to give Masonry. Now poor and friendless.

"Case 1,327. A thriving business man of Montreal, Canada, three years ago. Many of us knew him personally and well, and because of his generosity and true Masonic kindness we helped him liberally. His unfortunate condition, we ascertained, was due to habits which he did not appear able to break.

"Case 1,331. From Connecticut. Charter of lodge revoked in 1883, and applicant did not know it. Had paid no dues in thirty years—a partial explanation of his ignorance.

"Case 1,336. An Entered Apprentice from West Indies. Initiated May, 1896, but could go no further, owing to sickness of his wife and sudden poverty. Helped some.

"Case 1,341. A brother from Maryland, and a very queer case, indeed. We knew him to be a Mason, and helped him considerably before communicating with his lodge. On doing so we were informed he was a 'bad egg' but nothing to indicate the degree or nature of his failing. Afterward the lodge returned the money we had given, and authorized us to give him more if he applied. We have not since seen or heard of him. We were interested enough to be inquisitive, but blessed ignorance still showers its blissfulness upon us.

"Case 1,348. This is the case of a man who applied to us soon after our organization in 1880, and was recognized, though denying his former application. He might have changed his name, and did not. His features could not be so easily altered, and his untruthfulness did him no good.

"Case 1,352. This elderly but frisky brother was noted in last year's report as case 1,241. Not satisfied with his experience of a year before, he must needs come to New York again, stray 'upon the Bowery,' be relieved of his money, come to us for sympathy and money. He got little of the first, none of the last.

"Case 1,365. A brother from Connecticut. Has been sick in hospital for some months. Was told he could not get well; struggled to this city, aided by the Albany Board of Relief, and wanted to go to his home to die among relatives. A good case for kind words and more substantial aid.

"Case 1,368. This man claimed membership in a lodge at Boston, and had certificates of membership in Chapter and Commandery in that city. On enquiry it was found that he never was a member of the lodge there; was a member of the other bodies,

but had swindled several of his companions and Sir Knights. Was a smooth 'Uriah Heep' sort of fellow. We gave him a little money pending investigation; but have satisfaction in knowing his career as a Masonic beggar is checked.

"Case 1 373. This smooth, well-dressed applicant, hailing from a lodge in Illinois, had the nerve to appear before us with lie upon lie, in the face of evidence to refute him, and was given such a severe lecture that he is not apt to forget. The night before his appearance he had been given, in one of our lodges, enough to get meal and lodging. This and case 1,378 (almost precisely similar) furnish excellent ground for the support of the General Association, by the aid of which we were enabled to detect them."

The Committee on Jurisprudence reported in part as follows:

'We are of the opinion and unanimously decide that it is a *'strictly Masonic purpose,'* within the provisions of said section, for a lodge to levy an assessment, in accordance with the rules and regulations of this Grand Lodge and the subordinate lodge, to provide for the necessities of a worthy indigent brother in good and regular standing.

"Your Committee of Jurisprudence have fully considered the communication from the Grand Lodge of Maine, urging 'uniform legislation by the several Grand Lodges in relation to the admission of rejected candidates,' and urging that the effect of a rejection shall be limited to five years, and that during that time the candidate should be allowed to petition only to the lodge which rejected him, except with the consent of such lodge.

"Our Grand Lodge, after due consideration, has recently abandoned the old usage of perpetual jurisdiction, and at the adoption of our Revised Constitution in 1896 fixed the limit at one year (Sec. 116).

"We are not prepared at this time to recommend an extension of that time to five years merely for the sake of uniformity, and until such uniform legislation is adopted, we must be governed by the laws of the Grand Lodge under whose authority the candidate was rejected. * * *

"The W. M. of La Clémenté Amitié Cosmopolite Lodge, No. 410, desires the Grand Lodge to authorize subordinate lodges to heal and admit by affiliation any Free Masons hailing from lodges in France, upon satisfactory proof of their good standing in their mother lodges.

"If this is included to include those hailing from the clandestine lodges under the jurisdiction of the Grand Orient of France, this committee most emphatically dissent therefrom, and reiterate the position taken by this Grand Lodge in June, 1896, when they adopted the following:

"*Resolved,* That we fully recognize the legitimacy of Masons made in lodges of the A. and A. Rite in countries where that is the dominant rite, and welcome them to the right of visitation and affiliation under the usual Masonic restrictions, the same as if made in lodges of our obedience, those of the obedience of the *Grand Orient* of France alone excepted.

"We see no reason for modification of the position then taken, but reaffirmed the same.

"Your committee do not believe that a clandestine Mason can be *healed* by any Grand or Subordinate Lodge, but that he can heal himself by renouncing all connection with the clandestine body, and then, as pure as any other profane, he may petition, and, having passed a favorable ballot, be regularly initiated in a regular lodge. We know of no other way of his becoming a Mason and becoming entitled to visit or acquire membership in any lodge under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of New York.

"The Committee on Jurisprudence, to whom the preamble and resolutions submitted by Wor. J. Howard Wainwright were referred, would respectfully report:

"That while we are entirely in accord with the spirit of the preamble, and deprecate the evils enumerated, yet we do not think any further legislation necessary, as your committee reported fully on this subject in 1895, and the Grand Lodge unanimously adopted their report, and expressed their disapproval of '*the publication in the newspapers of the proceedings of lodges, and that all such publication be refrained from and forbidden.*'"

The monument erected by the State of New York to the memory of Brigadier General Nicholas Herkimer, of the Revolutionary era, was dedicated by full Masonic ceremonies. The venerable Grand Secretary, the genial and warm hearted Colonel Ehlers, acted as Grand Master, and delivered the following eloquent and masterly address:

"Fellow Citizens, we come to-day to pay homage to the hero of Oriskany. Here within the shadow of the house in which he lived, and to which he was brought to die, the State of New York has erected the monument we now consecrate to the memory of Herkimer. The State, by this mark of respect to a splendid manhood, honors itself. No bronze or marble shaft, no splendor of ancient or modern tomb, and no play of immortal genius can adorn the memory of Herkimer. His life and his deeds are the monuments that will keep his name enshrined in the hearts of loyal men and women, while the flying moments are dimming with rust and dust the inscription on this monument of stone. The immortality of Herkimer's name does not depend upon the splendor of the monument which marks his resting place. The fidelity of his unswerving patriotism, the unsullied integrity of his personal character, and his undaunted courage have written that name in living characters upon the brightest page of the immortal record.

"He was a type of that sterling manhood peculiar to those who wrought his nation. He stands too as the representative of the men who won the victory. What makes a nation? Not laws, nor systems, nor institutions, nor traditions, nor vast extent; but men—men in the true sense; that is, men of moral nerve, of sobriety, of intelligence, of industry, of morality,

"Eloquence," says Emerson, "is a speech in which there is a man behind every word." Victorious war, says history, is that contest in which intelligence and morality serve the guns. And how rich was the war of the Revolution in these personal qualities! How profound the influence of this day in reminding us

that the heroic excellence of human character which we attribute to the remote past, and suppose to be the exclusive property of poetry and tradition, is as much of our own land as any other! We read Plutarch until our imaginations flame with the Grecian story. The trophies of Miltiades even now kindle us with enthusiasm. History and poetry and heroic legend make the names of Marathon and Thermopylæ names of unrivaled glory.

“Oriskany, where Herkimer fell, was not less heroic. The mighty torrent of Asiatic barbarism which threatened for a time to sweep away Grecian civilization was not more formidable than that which threatened the independence of the colonies. If the heroes who stayed that earlier desolation and the fields on which their battles were fought are renowned and precious to Americans to-day, how much more precious are our own heroes and our own fields in that contest which gave freedom and independence to America, and deathless glory to her history.

“What incident of history or poetic legend surpasses in resolution and heroism that of Herkimer at Oriskany? With the enemy swarming around him, half of his gallant command of patriotic Germans slain; mortally wounded, the red blood of life leaving his veins, he gives utterance to the words, ‘I will face the enemy,’ and fights the battle to a successful termination. The name of Herkimer is inseparably linked with a memorable epoch. He stood in the very forefront of the nation’s life. Greater battles were fought in the American Revolution, greater skill and more consummate generalship were displayed in these battles than those possessed by Herkimer; but in no battle of that conflict was the success of the Continental troops so necessary as at Oriskany. On that blood-red field Herkimer held the key to the nation’s life. On that summer day, in that deadly defile, enveloped in a storm of fire and death, hand to hand with rifle and knife, Herkimer and his invincible Germans, fighting for their homes and firesides, fulfilled a mighty destiny. They defeated the plan of the enemy by preventing the junction of the columns commanded by Burgoyne and St. Leger, the consequent devastation of the valley of the Hudson, and doubtless the overthrow of the cause of American independence. If there had been no Oriskany with its matchless heroism there would have been no Trenton, no Saratoga, and no Yorktown.

“‘Death hath this, also,’ says Bacon, ‘it openeth the fate to good fame:’ but good fame in its turn conquers death. Herkimer is not dead. Behold how vast and varied is his existence! On this day he lives again. On the most heroic page of the world’s history he moves and breathes. He is immortal in the deep splendor of the flag crimsoned by his blood. He is incarnate in the hearts of the people whose homes grace the hillsides and valleys of this imperial nation. He lives now and shall live through the centuries, natural, noble, beautiful, until the last moment of time in this free land of ours.

“Ours, from the eastern emerald sea
 To Pacific’s placid slopes;
 Ours, by our father’s history;
 Ours, by our children’s hopes.

Ours, from the North lakes' crystal waves
To the Southern silver foam;

Ours, by the changeless right of graves;
Ours, by the lives to come.

Ours, by the homes that deck the land;
Ours, by the pathways trod;

Ours, by the ages' stern demand;
Ours, by the gift of God.

Ours, by the patriot's holy love;
Ours, by his dying throe;

Ours, by the starry flag above;
Ours, by the blood below.

Ours, by the freeman's title deed
To the land of liberty;

Ours, by the freeman's sacred creed;
Ours, for humanity."

"In the name of the commonwealth we dedicate this monument to the memory of General Nicholas Herkimer, the patriot, the Mason, the Christian gentlemen.

Our space is so limited that we cannot do justice to the admirable report of Bro. Jesse B. Anthony. Canada for 1896 has due notice.

Lodges, 740; members 93,271; increase 2,397.

William A. Sutherland (Rochester), G. M.

Edward M. L. Ehlers (New York), G. S.

NEW ZEALAND.

"That sweet golden clime,
Where the traveller's journey is done."

Annual Communication, Invercargill, April 28, 1897.

William Barron, G. M.

The Grand Master acknowledges the debt owing to the several Grand Superintendents for the able and orderly manner in which their duties have been performed, and for the prosperity of the lodges throughout the colony. He also says:

"The Grand Lodge of New Zealand may now, in the close of this, its seventh year, be regarded with confidence as having reached an assured position as ruling one of the territories, not the least important in the Masonic world. With continued vigilance on the part of the lodge under its jurisdiction, so that no person may be admitted to a participation in our privileges who has not already been approved by his fellow-men as being in every respect a worthy citizen, much may be done to raise freemasonry still higher in public estimation. Against one misconception of the objects of our order, it is as well that we should be always on our

guard. Freemasonry is not a benefit society. While our precepts inculcate that relief should ever be readily granted to all poor and distressed brethren, we have, as we all know, a still higher and nobler purpose. There may be those who seek admission to the craft under the impression that it is chiefly a sort of friendly society from which certain pecuniary advantages may be derived. All such must be undeceived if we would continue to deserve the reputation we value."

A committee was appointed to consider the question of granting Past Grand Rank, as it was doubtful whether their Constitution permitted that function, except to members of other Grand Lodges.

The initiatory steps were taken to form a fund for Masonic Scholarships and Permanent Relief to Aged Indigent Masons.

Lodges, 107; members 4,239; increase 255.

The semi-annual Communication was held at Auckland, on the 27th of October, 1897.

The recognition of the Grand Lodge of New Zealand by the Grand Lodge of England was formally announced.

The Board of General Purposes expressed the opinion that a movable Grand Lodge is eminently suitable to the geographical and other conditions of New Zealand, and should be continued. The discussion on this clause was postponed.

The following report was received and the committee discharged, and a new committee was not appointed:

"The Committee on Incorporation of Grand Lodge are not agreed on the form of the Bill to Incorporate Grand Lodge, and I can only report to that effect.

"I further report that out of the four members of the Committee two have expressed themselves against Incorporation at all, one in favor, and the other has not replied.

"I think that this matter could be brought up by saying that there was no formal report from the Committee, but that I had communicated the above facts, and suggested that further time be given, or a new Committee appointed."

William Barron, G. M.

Rev. Wm. Donaldson (Dunedin), G. S.

NORTH CAROLINA.

"The noblest spirit is most strongly attracted by the love of glory."

111th Communication, Oxford, January 11, 1898.

Walter E. Moore, G. M.

The opening paragraphs of the address of the Grand Master are worthy of special attention:

“BRETHREN,—For the first time in its history, the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons in North Carolina, at its Annual Communication in Raleigh in January, 1897, conceived the idea that in January, 1898 (the date of its Regular Annual Communication), would be a proper time to pay a visit to its institution at Oxford, and for a brief season visit the children at their home, and with them have a pleasant time around the fire side, and over the farm and see for themselves what is being done by the Grand Lodge in the interest of, and for the protection, care and maintenance of those, otherwise unable to care for themselves. It has been my desire and constant hope that every lodge in this Grand Jurisdiction would send a representative to this Annual Communication; and I have urged the lodges, through the *Friend* and otherwise to that end. The occasion for this must be plain to every one. First, the craft throughout the State could know what the Grand Lodge is doing to make noble men and women out of children who would have grown up in ignorance, want and ruin, but for the timely establishment of the Oxford Orphan Asylum. Second, that the representative so sent could afterwards return to his lodge and report what he had seen and what was being done, and thereby arouse a deeper interest among the brethren in maintaining this institution.

“The brightest page in the history of Masonry in North Carolina was written when the Grand Lodge established this institution, for a home for the homeless, the fatherless and motherless within the bounds of this Grand Jurisdiction, and that ‘page’ grows brighter as we see the Masons year after year striving to maintain it, increase its capacity, and thereby its usefulness, and while we, as Masons, are doing this, we must not be unmindful, but ever grateful to those (who are not Masons) who have so liberally contributed of the means with which God has blessed them, to aid us in this great work. Upon such may the God of Heaven continue to shower His richest blessings. I cherish the hope that this meeting of the Grand Lodge at Oxford will result in a revival of interest on the part of the craft in behalf of this institution, and renewed energy in striving to maintain it, and increase its usefulness.

“The Grand Lodge was fortunate indeed in locating the Asylum at this place, besides being one of the healthiest places in the State, the people of Oxford deserve the everlasting gratitude of the Masons of this Grand Jurisdiction for the unselfish and loyal manner in which they have always contributed of their means and time in aid of its support, and the loving kindness, they have ever shown the ‘little ones’ (under its care), and its officers during hours of sickness and sore distress. Such people are not without their reward.

“If it were possible for me to add one more word to what has already been written and spoken, that would arrest the attention of the craft throughout this Grand Jurisdiction in the cause of our Orphan Asylum, I feel it would be a pleasure to do so. That this home for the fatherless and motherless is now, and must become, as time rolls on, the greatest monument to Masonry there is no question, for it was born of sympathy founded in love, and lives in the hearts and prayers of the good and true. The widow in her lonely home will breathe a silent prayer for Heaven’s bless-

ings to rest upon the craft who have made it possible by their care and foresight to give a home to her orphan child surrounded with every comfort, without which it would have been a castaway and an object of charity. Our craftsmen throughout this Grand Jurisdiction as they toil day by day for an honest living for themselves and their families, and annually contribute to the support and maintenance of this institution, can do so with the assurance, that should their offspring become orphans, the doors of this home will be open to take care of them and bring them up to be useful men and women."

The lodges are working well, and have taken no backward step. The Grand Master thinks that nearly all of the troubles that may be in the lodges arise from the use of intoxicating liquors, and he recommends a closer guard on the ballot box.

Nine new lodges were opened during the year.

In the Oxford Masonic Asylum there are 111 girls and 101 boys. They run a farm, a shoe shop, a printing office, a machine shop, and a school, and they are going to add a wood-working shop and a modern dairy. Mr. B. N. Duke offered \$7,500, provided the Masons would raise a like amount, to be used in building and furnishing cottages for the girls, and other improvements. The Grand Lodge gratefully accepted his proposal with heartfelt appreciation of his generosity.

Bro. John A. Collins again reports on Correspondence, and in his introduction, he says :

"On the subject of Masonic Relief the Wisconsin plan of uniformity has been before Grand Lodges for several years, and is generally declined because it is believed to be dangerous, unwise and not in accord with the teachings of Masonry.

"But the fraternity is now, as it always has been, a unit on the subject of extending relief to the needy brother within her gates and, after he is gone, to his dependents. There is no difference except as to the best method of bestowing it. Some believe that the beneficiaries should be cared for in a home where there would be no sense of receiving alms, and where all the inmates could be most efficiently attended to. Many Grand Lodges acting on these views have erected costly homes and, through their agency, are doing incalculable good.

"Other Grand Lodges disapprove of the 'Home' because of the ostentation implied in its construction and the cost of maintenance, but mostly because aged beneficiaries would grow heart-sick away from friends and familiar scenes, and would ever feel that they were breathing the atmosphere of the prison or the poor house, were they never so well provided.

"But in either case the good work goes on without stop or pause, whether it is done in the Home or the orphanage or in the quieter ways known to the Craft, and it will continue to do so until there shall be no more bereavement, nor sorrow, nor affliction, nor death.

"Now that the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons, of North Carolina, is assembled in Annual Communication under the very shadow of the most enduring monument it has ever builded or can build,—the Oxford Orphan Asylum—it will not be deemed indelicate or vain-glorious to say in very truth that the value of this institution is beyond estimation in giving to the State and to humanity every year, young men and young women who will contribute to North Carolina's stock of modest virtue. If Masonry had done no other thing to deserve well of the State than the loving care and tenderness it has bestowed on these fatherless children, it would be entitled to the respect and commendation of all who can appreciate the factors that go to make good citizens and sturdy men and women.

"The influence of the Oxford Orphan Asylum under its earnest, faithful and God-fearing management, will be potent for good in the years yet to come, when the names and the memories of those good men and Masons who bethought them of this noble work shall have faded from the minds of men and shall nowhere be found except in the record book of that Supreme Lodge where the Great Architect of the Universe presides."

Lodges, 298; members 10,500; increase 130.

Walter E. Moore (Webster), G. M.

John C. Drewry (Raleigh), G. S.

NORTH DAKOTA.

"One Country, One Constitution, One Destiny."

8th Communication, June 8, 1897.

William T. Perkins, G. M.

He reports two new lodges and gives us the following information as to the condition of the Craft in North Dakota:

"The duties of the Grand Lecturer have been light. While his ever ready services have been at the command of the subordinate lodges, they have not availed themselves of the opportunity. The future prospects are especially bright for work for the coming year, and I would recommend for your consideration the advisability of making compulsory for the one year a school of instruction of one day's session in each lodge of this jurisdiction. The actual travelling expenses of the Grand Lecturer to be paid by the Grand Lodge, and the per diem to be paid and the local entertainment provided by the subordinate lodge. That the date of visits be fixed by the Grand Lecturer at as early a date as possible, and the subordinate lodges duly notified in the name of the Grand Lodge, through the Grand Secretary's office. While the general work of the lodges of this jurisdiction is excellent, it is still capable of improvement, especially in view of the change in the work authorized by your body two years ago. * * *

"The work of the year in this Grand Jurisdiction has not been up to expectation. While the business depression has been felt no more in North Dakota than in other parts of the country, I find by reference to the records of the weather bureau that nature

seems to have entered into the conspiracy, and is, perhaps, largely accountable for the general inclination of our people throughout the State to stay at their home firesides during the past winter."

Representatives were exchanged with the Grand Orient of Greece.

The following report was adopted :

"That a compulsory school of instruction of one day's session of each Lodge of this Grand Jurisdiction for the ensuing year be ordered by this Grand Body and that the actual traveling expenses of the Grand Lecturer be paid by this Grand Lodge, and a fee of \$5 be paid by each Lodge so visited."

An addition of ten cents per capita for the next five years was imposed for the maintenance of the library.

The by-laws were amended by the addition of the following :

"*Provided*—That every candidate who has been raised to the sublime degree of Master Mason shall be required within sixty days thereafter, unless further time be granted by dispensation of the Grand Master, to pass an examination in the lecture thereof, in open lodge, satisfactory to the Worshipful Master and members, before he shall be entitled to any of the rights and benefits of the Master Mason's degree. Further, that every subordinate lodge within this jurisdiction is required within six months of the closing of this communication to adopt this By-law or some other carrying into effect its provisions."

The non-publication of the usual report on Correspondence has enabled them to become entirely free from debt, to get their Grand Lodge Register in shape and to complete a much needed compilation of their Grand Lodge by-laws and decisions.

Lodges, 48; members 2,702; increase 152.

Robert M. Carothers (Grand Forks), G. M.

Frank J. Thompson (Fargo), G. S.

NOVA SCOTIA.

"The oyster-women locked their fish up
And trudged away to cry, No Bishop."

32nd Communication, Halifax, June 9. 1897.

John W. Ruhland, G. M.

The craft is in a healthy state. A new life appears to have been inspired during the year and reports of advancement come from every section of the Province. This gratifying state of things is apparently very largely due to the efficient services of the Grand Master, who visited every lodge in the jurisdiction. He advocates the abolition of dues and increase of initiation fees :

“I could not help noticing, in almost all the lodges I visited, the large amount of back dues which were owing. This is not as it should be. If the brethren understood both the laws, rules, and regulations of the craft and the penalties attached thereto; and if these penalties were put in force at the proper time, there would be less trouble in respect to dues, and fewer suspensions for non-payment. My firm belief is, most of this trouble is caused through ignorance. The brethren, it seems to me, don't even take the trouble to read the by-laws of their lodges. If the Masters would cause to be read at every regular meeting clauses of the law bearing on important questions, and by this means instruct the members of the craft, there is no doubt in my mind but there would be greater interest manifested, and a better growth of good, substantial material.

“I hope the day is not far distant when this innovation of dues will be done away with altogether. The craft would be more united and harmonious, and there would be no suspension for non-payment, this terrible insect which is eating our very existence.

“But this question will be asked, if we do away with lodge dues, how are we to meet our expenses? How? Why raise your fees. Masonry is altogether too cheap. Retailing it out, as is too frequently done, is the whole cause of the trouble. Cheap masonry brings cheap material, and hence shoddy goods. Decay must follow. Let us hear from our able distinguished writers a better remedy if they have one.

“There is another important matter in connection with this vexed question, the indiscriminate suspension of members for back dues. Take a lodge of thirty or forty members, and largely scattered from the lodge room, perhaps the average attendance not more than ten or twelve, suspending at once twelve members. Now is it possible to find twelve brethren in a small lodge, all of whom should be indiscriminately dealt with? I simply can't believe it. May there not be some of these good and worthy brethren—but unfortunately in circumstances over which they have no control, and unable to comply with their obligations? Should these brethren be harshly dealt with? I say most emphatically, no. It is in my opinion unmasonic, and contrary to the spirit of masonry.

“It gives me unfeigned pleasure to inform you that in the course of the year I have visited *every* lodge in the jurisdiction. The performance of this duty I felt incumbent on me as your Grand Master. I felt myself bound to comply as far as I possibly could with the Constitution in this respect. And I rejoice to say that every lodge received me with the courtesy and respect due to their official head. Quite a number of our lodges had never received a visit from a Grand Master before my appearance amongst them. My visit, therefore, gave the brethren an opportunity to receive instruction, not only in ritualistic work, but in constitutional points upon which they were not quite clear. In the course of my visitations I conferred quite a number of degrees, and exemplified the work, in which many of our lodges are deficient, owing to the want of proper instruction. I strongly advise Grand Lodge at this session to devise some measure to give the work to the

lodges by formulating a ritual and placing it in the hands of the Grand Secretary, through whom Masters of lodges can have access to it; and I am quite sure that in a very short time we shall have a uniformity of work throughout the jurisdiction. This is what the members of the craft need. This is what they are asking for. Why, then, not give them the means of proper instruction, that they may become expert Craftsmen in the grand and glorious Temple of Masonry."

Representatives were exchanged with the Grand Lodge of Hungary. A committee was appointed to further closer relations with the Grand Lodges of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. Canvassing for office in Grand Lodge is increasing, and it was found necessary to adopt the following:

"Whereas, by Chapter 1, Section 2, of the Constitution of this Grand Lodge, it is declared that 'canvassing for office in Grand Lodge is forbidden.' This Grand Lodge now assembled desires to reiterate and solemnly declare that canvassing for office in said Grand Lodge is derogatory to its dignity, subversive of, and contrary to the constitution, dangerous to that peace and harmony which should ever exist among its members, and any one committing such offence is guilty of a violation of his obligation, and liable to serve censure and punishment."

The Maine proposition as to five years' jurisdiction over rejected candidates was declined. Their rule on this subject is the same as ours:

Bro. T. B. Flint, the able and accomplished reporter on Correspondence, was elected Grand Master and we congratulate him on his promotion. Our proceedings were not received. In his notice of the Grand Lodge of England, Bro. William Ross says:

"There is one sentence in the Earl of Lathom's speech to which we take exception. He is reported as having said, 'From these small islands Englishmen have colonized and explored and conquered and extended the dominions over one-fifth of the habitable globe.' We would respectfully ask where were the Irishmen and Scotchmen when all this was being accomplished by Englishmen solely. Were they asleep or calmly looking on during all these years. We were under the impression that Irishmen and Scotchmen were always to be found in the advance guard of colonization, and when force was necessary in extending and upholding the dignity of this glorious empire of which we are all so proud, they could always be depended upon to do their full share of fighting."

Lodges, 62; members, 3409; increase, 58.

Thomas B. Flint, M. P. (Yarmouth), G. M.

Hon. William Ross (Halifax), G. S.

OHIO.

"The chestnuts, lavish of their long hid gold,
To the faint summer, beggared now and old,
Pour back the sunshine hoarded 'neath her favorite eye."

88th Communication, Columbus, Oct. 20, 1897.

Nelson Williams, D. G. M. presiding.

The Grand Master, Bro. Barton Smith, was unavoidably detained from attending Grand Lodge, and his address was read by the Deputy. From it was made the following extracts:

"The District Lecturer System has proven itself thoroughly successful. It has raised the standard of work, brought about nearly absolute uniformity therein, and kept the Lodges of the State in touch with each other. Its effect has been peculiarly favorable in bringing the Lodges to realize that they are all working together for the common purpose of advancing the general interests of Freemasonry.

"The District Lecturers are not merely disciplinarians, they are the bearers of good tidings and the promoters of higher Masonic life throughout their districts. The news of good works and high endeavor is carried from lodge to lodge, arousing all to new life and activity, and bringing about that noble emulation as to who best can work and best agree. * * *

"I have permitted Chapters of the Eastern Star to occupy lodge-rooms for ceremonial and festival purposes in cases where the consent of the lodge was unanimous and no objection was offered, limiting, in every case, such permission to this Annual Communication. * * *

"The conflict of jurisdiction between Grand Lodges of the different States, has come to be a matter of great importance; one, out of which much ill feeling between sister jurisdictions is likely to result, unless it is dealt with wisely, prudently, and with a desire to produce harmony. * * *

"Before the amendment of Section 18, of our Code, we recognized and maintained perpetual jurisdiction, and therefore recognized the perpetual jurisdiction of others without question. We have reduced our own claim to jurisdiction, and the jurisdiction required within our own State to three years; but have we, by that act, in any way affected the jurisdiction of other Grand Lodges? I think not. It seems to me that, in the interests of harmony, the protection of fraternal fellowship, and especially under that comity which should exist between Masonic Grand Lodges throughout the world, we should respect the jurisdiction of lodges within other Grand Jurisdictions in accordance with their laws. And, on the other hand, we ought as rigidly to maintain and stringently enforce our claims to jurisdiction in accordance with our laws. * * *

"The glory and pride of Ohio Freemasonry—our beautiful Masonic Home—is completed, and was, on the first day of April last, opened for the performance of its great duties and purposes.

"It is an noble work, admirably executed, and the thanks of the

Masons of Ohio are due to the Board of Trustees who have carried on the work with such excellent skill and business ability.

"Its very success, however, and its importance, bring to us new cares and responsibilities, and impose upon us new burdens. * * *

"The amount realized up to the first day of October was \$5,806.15 contributed by 295 lodges. It has enabled the Home to carry on its work until this time.

"This means of raising funds for the Home, while perhaps proper enough as a temporary expedient, would be, if it were to be used as a precedent, open to very serious objections. If we desire the success and permanence of the Home, we must not permit it to be regarded as a common beggar. The amount it is true, is small, but the difficulty does not lie there. No unnecessary petty annoyance should come within the walls of a lodge-room, and to have it well understood that a visit to a lodge would be the signal for solicitations, however slight, would certainly not promote the attendance upon or increase the pleasure of the meetings.

"Again, this duty ought not to be imposed upon the Masters. At least in the larger communities many of the best qualified and most successful Masters are those whose daily work makes several requirements upon their time and attention. All Masters must be held responsible for the prosperity, success and good government of their lodges. To impose upon them additional and, to say the least, disagreeable duties, would be not only to impair their usefulness, but would in the long run, deprive the lodges of the services of their most competent members. Many Masters have said to me, 'I could pay the whole sum desired with less interference with my business than I could call upon every member of my lodge and ask him for a contribution.'

"Whatever is done by the Grand Lodge, should be put upon a business basis, and in such way as neither to impair the usefulness of the lodge, or interfere with individual charity.

"In my judgment, the Masonic Home will not be upon a safe and substantial basis until a permanent fund is provided, whose income is sufficient to support the Home. The problem of how to provide that permanent fund, is the most serious one that now confronts us."

The Grand Lodge, to the number of over 600, spent an afternoon in an inspection of the Ohio Masonic Home at Springfield.

The committee on jurisprudence went exhaustively into the jurisdictional question, and their conclusions are eminently sound:

"Under the head of Conflict of Jurisdictions, the Grand Master in his address refers to four cases involving correspondence between himself and Grand Masters of other Grand Jurisdictions. These cases call attention to the well-known fact that the same governmental policy does not prevail throughout all the Grand Jurisdictions. While Masonry, in its character, conceptions, and high purposes, is essentially the same the world over, yet we must not expect its administration to be the same so long as the doctrine of Grand Lodge Sovereignty prevails. The Grand Lodges,

although always agreeing upon essentials and ever remaining within the ancient landmarks, will still have different ideas, opinions, and sentiments about receiving members, governing lodges, making and enforcing regulations, and kindred subjects. And they will, each for itself, adopt rules, provide laws, issue orders, and arrange plans to build up, maintain, and extend the fraternity within their respective territories. And now, since there is no world-wide central authority to review these laws, rules, orders, and plans, and to mold them after one pattern, uniformity in these things is impossible, even if desirable.

"The only way it could be obtained would be by some general system of conference and agreement among all the Grand Lodges, adopting and maintaining a plan with all the numerous and tedious details modeled alike. This can most probably never be accomplished. Difference in language, literature, laws, and institutions, diversity in local needs, sentiments, and conditions, different degrees of education, civilization, and development render this not only difficult, but impossible.

"It can not now, probably can not ever, be accomplished even by the Grand Lodges of America.

"Some of the cases referred to by the Grand Master relate to the so-called doctrine of Perpetual Jurisdiction, a rule that a candidate once rejected by a lodge, no matter why, is forever disqualified for Masonry, except by consent of such lodge, no matter where or how long he may reside elsewhere, no matter how wise, worthy, strong, noble, manly, good, and pure he may thereafter become. This rule enables a single member of a lodge, be he never so unwise or unjust, in a moment of anger or under a temporary heat of petty personal grievance, either real or imaginary, or under a mistaken belief based on idle gossip or untrue information, not only to close the door of his own lodge against the candidate, but to drive him hence, and to place a brand upon him, that he may wear it, like Cain, throughout life, no matter how long he may live, where he may go, nor how pure and noble he may be or thereafter become. A minority of the American Grand Lodges adhere to this doctrine; the others hold the doctrine of Temporary Jurisdiction—if we may use this as a counter expression.

"This latter doctrine gives rise to the rule that a rejected candidate who thereafter removes into another jurisdiction, may, after he has resided there a fixed period, and after a definite time has expired since his rejection, properly apply to the lodge in whose jurisdiction he resides for Masonry, and that this lodge is the sole judge of his fitness or unfitness; and that, while his previous rejection should be carefully investigated, yet the lodge may reject or receive him as it may determine without let or hindrance from the lodge previously rejecting him. Your committee believes that this is the best rule, for it is consonant with philosophy, philanthropy, and human nature; and it recognizes in man the possibility of growth, improvement, and reformation.

"Besides, which lodge has the best ordinary opportunities to judge of the candidate's physical, mental, and moral qualities—the lodge where he resided years ago, or the one where he now resides, and for a number of years last past has resided? Why

should the latter appeal to the former for judgment? The candidate may have been rejected years ago, either with or without just cause, and some time before his character had been formed as it is formed in after years. In the meantime he has lived many years within the jurisdiction of another lodge, and if the latter apply to the former lodge the record discloses the candidate's rejection. The members do not know or remember him; they do not know who or how many opposed him, or why; they only know he was rejected, and presume their Masonic fathers had good reason for his rejection, and therefore refuse consent.

"The only wise, just, and philanthropic rule, in the opinion of your committee, is to let every State and every lodge judge for itself of the fitness or unfitness for Masonry of those who have resided within its territory a sufficient time to enable their merits or demerits to be known. Indeed, no other rule can be fairly, uniformly, and satisfactorily enforced, or even enforced at all, against lodges of another Grand Jurisdiction. This Grand Lodge once entertained the view of Perpetual Jurisdiction, and found itself often embarrassed and entangled with other Grand authority, until it amended Second 18 of its Code, since which time it has upheld the other rule.

"But the address of the Grand Master presents to us the query whether we should not at times depart from our own law, out of comity and courteous consideration for the laws of other Grand Lodges on this subject. Your committee think not. If a question on this point arises between one of our lodges and a lodge of another Grand Jurisdiction, we must either follow our own law, or, setting it aside, follow the foreign law. There would be no dignity, self-respect or justice in the latter course. It is a maxim in government that a law enacted by one principality or power can have no extra-territorial effect. It would be wrong, not to say insolent, for this Grand Lodge to insist that some other Grand Lodge, in violation or disregard of its own laws, should follow our law in its application to one of its lodges or members, or would-be members, simply because he once resided within our territory and once vainly sought admission to our membership. Besides, it would be impracticable to attempt to apply the law of another Grand Jurisdiction to one seeking initiation or preferment in one of our lodges. Such a course would require the subordinate lodge to overlook our own constitution, code, and laws, and to become a student of the jurisprudence of a foreign and sister Grand Lodge. It is hard enough for our lodge officers to understand our own laws, and if we required more, it would involve the Grand Master and Grand Lodge in endless and fruitless difficulties to explain and enlighten them on the laws of other Grand Lodges. Then, if this plan could be successfully carried out, our system of government would become as varied and checkered as the autumn foliage, and we would introduce within one jurisdiction, and that one our own, all the discord which exists, not in one, but among all the others."

The Grand Lodge decided to permit the chapters of the Eastern Star to occupy the lodge rooms with the consent of the lodge, without the consent of the Grand Master.

The ladies fully appreciated this concession, and their Grand Chapter donated \$100.00 of their funds to the Ohio Masonic Home.

The report on Correspondence is again by Bro. W. M. Cunningham and covers over 330 pages. We had marked many good things to copy, but find that our limited space forbids. We would like all our readers to have an opportunity of perusing this valuable review.

Lodges, 498; members, 41,713; increase, 874.

Nelson Williams (Hamilton), G. M.

J. H. Bromwell (Cincinnati), G. S.

OREGON.

"And dear the *Beaver* is to him,
As if it never made a dam."

47th Communication, Portland, June 16, 1897.

Phil. Metschan, G. M.

They mourn the loss of one of the best of their Past Grand Masters, Bro. Joseph N. Dolph, who was also a United States Senator and one of the most respected members of that body.

Under the head of Clandestine Lodges the Grand Master says:

"It has come to my knowledge that certain persons have organized lodges in our jurisdiction, claiming that they are legitimate lodges of A. F. & A. Masons, and that members of their organizations were recognized as Masons by the Fraternity of this state, I desire to call the attention of all concerned to the fact that no lodge of Masons, in this jurisdiction, is legitimate, or can be recognized, except it holds its warrant of authority from this Grand Lodge, and that all persons claiming to have received the degrees in any of said so-called Masonic lodges, or being members of the same, are clandestine and cannot be admitted to, or be recognized by, any lodge under our jurisdiction."

We copy part of the report of the Grand Lecturer:

"I have been able to visit almost every lodge in the jurisdiction at least once, and quite a number of them twice. Those who are acquainted with the geography of our state, the location of many of the lodges, as well as the routes to be traveled and the modes of conveyance, will appreciate this herculean task for one of my years.

"While it has occupied almost all of my time during the year and in many instances taxed my endurance almost to the limit, yet I feel that my labors have not been entirely in vain, and that I have in some ways been of benefit to the Craft in securing a somewhat uniform work throughout the jurisdiction. I found the officers and members uniformly courteous and affable, and willing to

receive instruction, and I believe the adopted work is pretty well disseminated and practiced throughout the 105 lodges.

"The greatest obstacle to a thorough knowledge of the Ritual is the fact that the officers are generally business men, who can ill spare the time from their business while 'attending school,' or leave their home to attend the drills in some other town.

"This will probably be the case for years to come, as the Craft recognize the fact that a brother who has plenty of spare time as a general thing makes a poor officer for the lodge, and as a consequence the members are compelled to depend on the busy men for the success of their lodges.

"I endeavored to hold schools of instruction at central points most convenient to lodges in the vicinity, but owing to the facts above mentioned I met with very limited success, and had to early abandon the idea and pay visits to each individual lodge."

The following was adopted :

"Whereas, The first three degrees of Masonry are the foundation on which all Masonry rests; and

"Whereas, The Royal Arch, Knights Templar, and Scottish Rite bodies have regulations which prescribe penalties to be inflicted upon members who are suspended or expelled by their lodges; and

"Whereas, It is impossible for the Royal Arch, Knights Templar and Scottish Rite bodies to discipline members unless they have official notice of the action of the lodge;

"Be it resolved, That the Grand Secretary notify the Grand High Priest, the Grand Commander of K. T., and the Active Inspector-General of the A. & A. Scottish Rite for the Southern Jurisdiction of all suspensions and expulsions."

One B. F. Alley is denounced as an impostor and a fraud.

The sum of \$50.00 of the Educational Fund was set aside to purchase school books for the use of the Children's Home.

The report on Correspondence is again by Bro. Robert Clow, and he gives Canada for 1896 a good notice.

Lodges, 102; members, 4906; increase, 32.

W. H. Hobson (Salem), G. M.

James F. Robinson (Eugene), G. S.

PENNSYLVANIA.

"So upright Quakers please both man and God."

Quarterly Communication, June 2, 1897.

On the German Empire recognition question, the special committee reported that no differences exist which prevent an interchange of visits between the brethren of the German Empire lodges and those of Pennsylvania.

Quarterly Communication, Dec. 1, 1897.

The Grand Lodge Charity Fund has invested funds to the amount of \$75,000; the Girard Bequest, \$63,950; the Patton Memorial Charity Fund, \$56,000; and the Grand Lodge Sinking Fund, \$20,432.40.

In an appeal case, it was held that a man could change his name if he wanted to.

The real estate of the Grand Lodge is valued at \$1,696,376.95.

Annual Communication, Philadelphia, Dec. 27, 1897.

William J. Kelly, G. M.

We quote a few of his decisions :

“That a man made a Mason while abroad on a visit could not be recognized as a Mason in his jurisdiction. * * *

“That I would not give an opinion upon a question of physical disqualification without making a personal examination.

“That one who is a member of a lodge in another jurisdiction cannot be passed to the chair in this jurisdiction. * * *

“That in this jurisdiction an Entered Apprentice Mason is a member of a lodge.

“That we claim perpetual jurisdiction over all our rejected petitioners, our practice being, when other jurisdictions accept our rejected petitioners and confer the degrees upon them, to issue an edict forbidding Masonic intercourse with such.”

The Library is to be improved and decorated, and the rare intelligence, and unselfish devotion of the Art Association, in decorating the rooms in the Masonic Temple, is characterized as worthy of the highest praise.

The report on Correspondence was compiled by four brethren and edited by the chairman, Bro. Michael Arnold. The review of Canada for 1896 is by Bro. Charles J. McClary. He describes the address of Grand Master White as “fraternal in its sentiments, business-like and frank in its presentation, couched in language worthy of being read and re-read.” He does not like the publication of the names of the recipients of Masonic charity. On the prerogative of the Grand Master of making masons at sight, he says :

“That it is an ancient prerogative of the Grand Master cannot be controverted. It seems but just and proper that there should be an occasional performance of the rite, that the days of the past and those of the present may be linked together by solemn ceremony.”

In these days of iconoclasm, it is decidedly refreshing to come across such a specimen of sublime faith as the following :

“We believe what we teach, that the principles of Freemasonry

were inculcated and practised in the remotest ages of the world, that the ritual, changed by the processes of time, differences in language, and altered conditions of society, is still in effect the ritual of the ancient Craftsmen, and the whisperings heard when the workmen at the completion of the temple were called together and dismissed to travel in foreign parts are the whispers heard in the lodge-room at the present."

The position of the Grand Master in Pennsylvania is autocratic :

" Concerning the report of the committee on correspondence of the Grand Lodge of Indiana that the act of Grand Master Henderson is his act and his alone, we respectfully inform the committee that the Grand Master of Pennsylvania is really and actually the Grand Master. He is charged with maintaining the authority and dignity of the Grand Lodge. No committee on the doings of the Grand Master or other committee is appointed to revise and reverse his doings, as is too frequently done in other Grand Lodges. This is an important matter to be remembered. When the Grand Master of Pennsylvania acts, he acts by authority, and his authority is indisputable."

Bro. Arnold is the author of the following :

" I am tempted to add to the foregoing about refreshments, that under the original ' plan of Freemasonry ' lodges were associations of congenial brethren for social and convivial purposes. These were the words used by Right Worshipful Grand Master Geo. M. Dallas (afterwards Vice-President of the United States) when he was arrested and taken to Harrisburg before an Inquisitorial Committee of the Legislature, which attempted to extort from him the secrets of Freemasonry. The minutes of the old lodges in this jurisdiction show that the brethren ' contributed ' a six-pence each to pay for the cakes and ale, pipes, and other refreshments which were served in the lodge room. Hence the calling off from labor to refreshment in the lodge room and back again to labor. The meeting was held in a tavern, and sometimes the landlord was Master of the lodge for more years than any other member. This was to make sure that the refreshments would be provided. At the present time in some jurisdictions the landlord will not be admitted to membership, or if a member he will be expelled for being a landlord ! At the present time more lodges meet in taverns in England than in halls or lodge rooms owned by the lodges. Any one who has been there must have noticed this. The Grand Lodge of England owns the Freemasons' Tavern, which adjoins the Grand Lodge Hall. Work was not spun out to such an inordinate length that the brethren could not get to refreshment and home at a reasonable hour. English lodges do not have nor do they want many members. Fifty is about the average. The number being small, it is important that the brethren should be acquainted with and agreeable to each other ; hence the rule that one black ball shall reject. But the rejection is not perpetual or universal. The new Masonry in this country is turning the lodge into a school for reciting, acting, insuring, and sometimes amusing the brethren. New qualifications or disqualifications are being

adopted, and so the original 'plan of Freemasonry' is being superseded. The writer of this does not disagree with the Maine proposition as to the effect of a rejection. He would add, however, that the initiation of one who had been previously rejected should not entitle him to visit the lodge which rejected him. Indeed, this is practically so now, as no one can be admitted except with the consent of the lodge or Master.

"Concerning the cipher, it seems strange that one who has been obligated as a Mason can write anything of Freemasonry which is intelligible to himself or any other person. But rituals are used in England, simply because they cannot prevent the use of them, as the writer of this was told. Rituals can be purchased directly opposite the hall of the Grand Lodge from the publishers of the London *Freemason*. This is written simply to convey the fact, without expressing any opinion on it."

Lodges, 428; members, 51,031; increase, 1442.

William J. Kelly (Philadelphia), G. M.

William A. Sinn (Philadelphia), G. S.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

"O, it's a snug little island,
A right little, tight little island."

22nd Communication, Charlottetown, June 24, 1897.

John L. Thomson, G. M.

Two prominent brethren, who had been invaluable members of the Grand Lodge since its inception in 1875, passed away during the year: Bro. B. Wilson Higgs, Past Grand Secretary, and Bro. John W. Morrison, P. G. M. Bro. Higgs was Grand Secretary for sixteen years.

The Grand Master, accompanied by the Grand Secretary or Grand Lecturer, visited a number of the lodges and found everything working in a most satisfactory manner.

The following was adopted:

"Whereas, Soliciting votes in a Masonic Lodge (Grand or Subordinate) for a Masonic office is contrary to the spirit of Free Masonry;

"Therefore Resolved, That no brother shall declare himself a candidate or to use or cause to be used any influence to advance his election;

"And Further Resolved, That any brother so transgressing shall be subject to trial and if found guilty punished. Unanimously agreed to."

St. John's Lodge, No. 8, at Charlottetown, is now 100 years old, and the Grand Lodge granted them the privilege of wearing blue and gold regalia.

A revised Constitution was adopted.

Lodges, 12; members, 520; increase, 5.
 Leonard Morris, (Summerside), G. M.
 Neil McKelvie, (Summerside), G. S.

QUEBEC.

"Perhaps thou wert a priest, if so, my struggles
 Are vain, for priestcraft never owns its juggles."

27th Communication, Montreal, January 26, 1898.

E. T. D. Chambers, G. M.

On the Condition of the Craft, he says :

"The year now under review has been by no means a specially eventful one for the Craft in this jurisdiction, but the white dove of perfect peace has brooded continually over the Lodges and Brethren owing obedience to the Grand Lodge of Quebec. There has been an activity, too, as shown by demands from two or three different quarters, for information looking to the possible establishment of new Lodges, and by the erection of at least three new Lodge rooms in different parts of the Province.

The Grand Master decided that the Eastern Star was entirely unknown to the Constitution, and that the formation of chapters of that order is not a matter of discussion or settlement at meetings of Masonic Lodges.

He issued an edict warning the brethren against a clandestine lodge, for the following reasons :

"Early in August last I was notified by R. Wor. Bro. Geo. O. Stanton, D.D.G.M., Montreal, that he had information to the effect that a pretended Masonic Lodge had been instituted in this city about a year before, under dispensation or warrant from Grand Orient of France. Enquiry resulted in a confirmation of Bro. Stanton's report and brought to light a number of facts connected with the bogus organization, including documentary evidence that the alleged Lodge was clandestine as well as un-Masonic and illegal, and also a statement that one reason for application having been made to the Grand Orient of France for authority to hold the so-called Lodge, was that the Grand Lodge of Quebec and its work was not 'anti-clerical' enough. If, by 'anti-clerical,' was meant hostility to priest or minister of any denomination whatever, or to the moral or religious teachings of the clergy of the different churches concerning the existence of a Supreme God, Who is the Author and Father of all things, Who has revealed His Will to man, and Who will reward or punish us according as we have obeyed or disregarded His Divine precepts, then I assert, without the slightest fear of contradiction from those who know what they are talking about, that we are as uncompromisingly opposed to anti-clericalism as it is possible for men to be.

"It would have mattered little to us what was done by the so-called Emancipation Lodge, hailing under the Grand Orient of France, in this city, were it not that some worthy men, ig-

norant of what constitutes a just and lawful Lodge of Freemasons, might have been duped into petitioning for Masonic Light, those who are bereft of it themselves, because of their unrepudiated operations under the guise of Freemasonry. At the risk of attaching to the spurious body an importance to which it had not attained, it was due to those who had no means of their own of detecting its real character, that the latter should be placed before them in its true light. Information reached me that some of the Brethren of our own obedience, speaking the language used in the so-called Lodge, had, I would fain believe, in ignorance of the wrong they were committing, associated themselves more or less with the promoters of the illegal body. This, in itself, demands immediate action."

The Constitution is to be printed in the French language.

The report on Correspondence is by Bro. William H. Whyte, whose zeal and ability are well known to all Canadian Masons, and also throughout the Masonic world. In his introductory remarks he says :

"Among other subjects of debate have been the standing and discipline of 'Non-affiliates.' The question of making them contributing members of a lodge, '*nolens volens*,' by the threat of Bell, Book and Candle, have been seriously considered. In fact one jurisdiction has gone the length legislating that a non-affiliate of twelve months' standing shall be summoned, tried and expelled from the fraternity if he does not affiliate with some lodge. Now we think this does not go far enough. The punishment does not fit the crime. Some legislation should surely be enacted to follow this criminal fellow, after death, into the other world.

"The use of the name 'Masonic,' in business has brought scandal upon the good name of the fraternity, and several Grand Lodges have enacted legislation forbidding the use of the name in its jurisdiction in any business venture. The failure of some so-called Masonic Association to meet its just claims has led to this enactment.

"The advertising and unnecessary prominence given in the secular press, to the meetings and doing of many of the subordinate lodges, have brought forward very strong condemnatory remarks from Grand Masters and others. There has been far too much of this kind of thing, and it is time a halt was called.

"The Grand Representative System has still been under discussion, but not so much as formally, the consensus of opinion appearing to be in its continuance.

"The making of a 'Mason at sight,' by a Grand Master, has been the cause of numerous resolutions being carried in different jurisdictions prohibiting their Grand Masters from exercising any such power; yet the same Grand Masters are permitted to issue all sorts of dispensations to curtail and abridge the laws regarding the ballot, reference, shortening the time and conferring all the degrees in one night, practically amounting to the same thing.

Canada for 1897 is duly noticed.

Lodges, 56; members 3,590; increase 71.

E. T. D. Chambers (Quebec), G. M.

J. H. Isaacson (Montreal), G. S.

RHODE ISLAND.

"Hope springs exulting on triumphant wing."

107th Communication, Providence, May 17, 1897.

William H. Crawley, G. M.

Peace and harmony prevail and all the lodges are doing good work.

Two important Masonic functions during the year are fully reported, laying the corner-stone of the new State House at Providence, the most costly building ever erected in the State, and laying the corner-stone of a beautiful Masonic Temple at Pawtucket.

The Grand Secretary has printed a new trestle-board:

"In accordance with a vote passed at the Semi-Annual Communication last November I have caused to be printed a small and convenient sized Trestle-board. This book contains only the monitorial work of the three degrees and the ceremonies to be observed when a Grand officer visits a lodge. This book contains the monitorial work just as it appears in the authorized work, and will be found to be exceedingly convenient for the use of officers and candidates. The price has not been fixed as yet but it will be sold at a low figure. It is bound in two styles, American seal with flexible cover, and in cloth with a stiff cover. The book is ready for immediate delivery. The price at which it will be sold should not prevent the lodges from presenting one to every candidate."

The committee on the address presented the following report:

"The address shows in a marked degree the care and zeal which our Grand Master has extended over the Craft during his administration, which has been most successful and gratifying to the fraternity. The large number of official visits that he has made is most conclusive evidence of his interest in our institution, as well as his appreciation of the duties that properly belong to the office of Grand Master.

"In the matter of dispensations we find none that are contrary to the Masonic usage of this jurisdiction, but we cannot pass this subject without expressing the opinion that it would be much to the advantage of the Craft and greatly lessen the duties of the Grand Master if those lodges that intend to take a vacation during the summer months would provide for the same by changing their By-laws rather than each year be obliged to call upon the Grand Master to issue his dispensation for their benefit.

"In regard to the decisions of the Grand Master, your committee would respectfully ask for further time in which to consider the same, and to consult authorities in regard to some of them.

"In regard to the recommendation that it be made the imperative duty of the Grand Lecturer to visit every lodge at least once each year at a meeting of its officers for practice, your committee would suggest that this would impose a severe duty upon that officer, and in some cases we fear without adequate results. We would suggest that the Grand Master, upon the request either of the Grand Lecturer or of the W. Master of any lodge, should direct the Grand Lecturer to make such a visit and instruct the officers, for which his expenses should be paid upon the approval of the Grand Master.

"Your committee would commend the work of the Grand Lecturer, which they consider has been of great service to the Craft.

"In regard to the recommendation for a committee to revise the Grand Constitution, your committee would most heartily endorse the same, and would recommend that a committee of five persons be appointed by the Grand Master, who shall report at the next Semi-Annual Communication of this Grand Lodge such changes as they may deem desirable. Such changes to be in print.

"In regard to the other recommendations, your Committee would respectfully ask for further time in which to consider the same."

Lodges, 37; members, 5018; increase, 129.

Cyrus M. VanSlyck (Providence), G. M.

Edwin Baker (Providence), G. S.

SOUTH CAROLINA.

"In lands of palm and southern pine."

121st Communication, Charleston, Dec. 14, 1897.

Jacob T. Barron, G. M.

The condition of the Craft is improving in this jurisdiction.

"In my judgment, based on personal observation and the opinions of the District Deputy Grand Masters, I think the general condition of the Craft is fairly good. I am gratified to say that in many lodges there exists an intelligent appreciation of Masonry, and a satisfactory enthusiasm and activity in the work of the Order. In some they seem to be 'holding their own,' and to be entirely satisfied with that degree of success. Other lodges are too weak numerically, and the constant struggle for a bare existence discourages the members and deters good men from seeking Masonic light. And, finally, there are some lodges which should be prosperous, and yet are no credit to themselves or to this Grand Lodge.

"Some of the drawbacks to general prosperity will soon be removed by the beneficial effects of a uniform secret work, the new Code of our Masonic Law, and the personal attention that is being paid to subordinate lodges by the District Deputy Grand Masters. There are, however, stumbling blocks that the members of some individual lodges must remove. For instance, there are some lodges in prosperous towns which are doing practically nothing,

because of a prevailing opinion that a few members who have been regarded bright, or honored with high office in the past, are alone qualified to officer the lodge. In some of these cases a change of officers and an infusion of new blood would work astonishingly satisfactory results. On the other hand, some lodges make the mistake of changing officers too rapidly—not retaining a really good officer long enough. There can be no fixed rule as to how often one should be re-elected, but we should strive to be independent of any one or two officers, and thus feel obliged to continue to re-elect them; and, on the contrary, we should impress our members with the idea that there should be a higher ambition than simply to 'pass the chair';—that the aim should be to discharge our duties creditably and for the good of the Order. Avoid extremes in this matter."

The business transacted was local in interest.

A Revised Code is being printed and so the usual report on Correspondence is omitted. Bro. Walter M. Whitehead submitted a report from which we take the following:

"The Grand Lodge of Mexico appears to be in the throes of upheaval and revolutionary struggle. By decrees and appeals they seek for some notice by the Masonic bodies of the world. Mexican Masonry seems to be in a much muddled and withal a very chaotic condition. This Grand Lodge of Mexico is not now recognized by the other Masonic Jurisdictions, and we recommend that no action be taken in this matter until this Grand Lodge has full and perfect assurance that all domestic troubles are at an end and that the Grand Lodge of Mexico, having composed all its differences with home bodies, has established itself on a sure foundation.

"The application from the Grand Orient of Lusitano Unido, requesting the appointment of a Grand Representative of the Grand Lodge of South Carolina near the body, and suggesting the names of three persons from whom to make the selection has had our consideration.

"The committee does not know, nor are they able to obtain any information in regard to the right in question, and they recommend that the request be denied. * * *

"We note a touching appeal from the Free Masons of Greece, calling upon the fraternity to come to the rescue of the suffering and down-trodden natives of the Island of Crete, pressed down by the iron hand of the oppressor, and wailing under the scourge of the 'unspeakable Turk.'"

The committee on the address, whose report was adopted by the Grand Lodge, approved of the exercise by the Grand Master of his prerogative of making a Mason at sight, saying that it is a landmark of Masonry, and that no body of Masons can deprive him of that power.

Lodges, 179; members 5,853; increase 128.

Jacob T. Barron (Columbia), G. M.

Charles Inglesby (Charleston), G. S.

SOUTH DAKOTA.

Under God the people rule.

"The world is good, and the people are good,
And we're all good fellows together."

23rd Communication, Mitchell, June 8, 1897.

James Lewis, G. M.

With perhaps one exception, harmony prevails in all of the lodges in the jurisdiction. Notwithstanding the stringency of the times, the low prices prevailing, and the general stagnation in business, the returns show a substantial increase in membership. Three new lodges were formed. R. W. Bro. E. T. Malone is credited with a complete and very prompt report from Canada as their Grand Representative.

Splendid progress has been made with their Library.

We take the following paragraphs from the report of the committee on jurisprudence, which was adopted by Grand Lodge :

"We desire to express our fullest approbation in the determined stand taken by the M. W. Grand Master in refusing all requests for dispensations to confer degrees out of time. While this prerogative is clearly vested in the Grand Master, the occasion for its exercise must be one of great emergency and especial merit.

"With but one exception, we approve the dispensations granted and reported. The exception is in the case of dispensation granted to Aberdeen Lodge No. 38, to attend divine services on Easter Sunday. Membership in the Masonic Lodge is denied to no one on account of creed or religion. Our membership, while largely if not nearly entirely composed of those professing Christianity, yet we have members of diverse faiths. A lodge therefore, should as such do nothing in which each and every member cannot conscientiously participate, and which by precedent has a tendency to encourage practices subversive of our boasted and liberal universality. * * *

"This Grand Lodge has at no time permitted honorary membership, in its proper Masonic sense, in the particular lodges under its obedience. Neither has it permitted, for any cause, the permanent exemption from the payment of annual dues of any member of a lodge. The exemption of the secretary of the lodge from such payment is in part a remuneration for his services and cannot in equity be considered an exemption. Inability to pay is, and should be the sole cause justifying exemptions from the payment of dues, and such exemption cannot be legally granted until the delinquency has occurred. Masonic duties of every kind and upon all lines are perpetual during Masonic life, while the ability of their performance exists.

"The proposal of the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Maine looking toward a uniform legislation upon the subject of jurisdiction over rejected material is contrary to the law as adopted by

this Grand Lodge. It is a subject, however, which both from its importance, and as an act of comity due the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Maine, and the eminent Masonic jurist who introduced and favors the proposal, deserves full and candid consideration.

"Your committee, fully imbued with this view of the subject, recommends that action upon the same be deferred until the next annual communication, to enable the particular lodges to consider the proposal before any action is had by this Grand Lodge."

The Quadro-centennial anniversary of the formation of the Grand Lodge is to be celebrated in 1899.

Clergymen are no longer to be admitted gratuitously.

The report on Correspondence is again by Bro. William Blatt, and is as usual an excellent production. Canada for 1896 receives very kindly mention.

Lodges, 96; members, 4,308; increase, 65.

Albert W. Coe (Deadwood), G. M.

Geo. A. Pettigrew (Flandreau), G. S.

TASMANIA.

"Earth is here so kind, that just tickle her with a hoe and she laughs with a harvest."

6th Communication, Launceston, January 28, 1897.

C. E. Davies, G. M.

Representatives were present from seventeen lodges out of twenty on the roll.

The Grand Secretary reports that fifty-eight candidates have been initiated and thirty affiliated. The lodge returns reached him in good order and fairly punctually, but the fees of Grand Lodge are largely in arrear. It was ruled that ordinary business could be legally disposed of when the lodge was open in any degree. Also, that every member present when the ballot is taken must record his vote. The receipt of our Proceedings is acknowledged.

One of the Grand Inspectors of lodges says:

"Speaking generally of the craft in this part of Tasmania, I am of opinion that it is well up to the standard of former years, and though perhaps fewer candidates have been initiated into its mysteries, there has been due regard paid to the moral and social qualities of those admitted. This is a point I am pleased to see engaging the attention of those zealous brethren who are anxious to increase our numbers and swell the ranks of the craft, for I take it that, although a high social standing is not an absolutely necessary attribute in a candidate for initiation, I think there ought to be an intellectual standard which should be a guide to our brethren as to whom they bring forward as fit and proper persons to be

made Masons.' I trust this will not be lost sight of by the brethren of Tasmania, for it should be our constant pride and endeavour to raise, and not depreciate, the tone of our 'grand old institution.'"

A comprehensive scheme was adopted for the regulation of the fund of benevolence. The per capita tax is three shillings per member per annum. Masters, on their first installation, pay ten shillings each, and Wardens, five shillings. There is also a sliding scale of fees payable by all members who are unfortunate enough to be elected to offices in Grand Lodge, but an officer, re-elected to the same office in Grand Lodge, only pays half the usual fee.

The installation of officers is an imposing ceremony. We give part of the program, with the addresses of the Grand Master of South Australia, who was present to add lustre to the occasion.

“ CHANT.

(AFTER THE OBLIGATION.)

‘Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips that they speak no guile.’

“The M. W. Grand Master was then invested and installed.

ODE.

Words by Wor. Bro. Spencer, N. S. W.)

Tune—‘Moscow.’ 360 A. and M.

God our Grand Master bless
 With health and happiness,
 So mote it be!
 May he our craft defend,
 Long may his rule extend,
 Our Master, Guide, and Friend,
 So mote it be!
 May Wisdom from on high
 Bind fast our Mystic Tie,
 So mote it be!
 May our united band
 Greet him throughout the land,
 With Apron, Heart and Hand,
 So mote it be!

“The Installing Master then in the East proclaimed the Installation, after sound of trumpet, the Grand Director of Ceremonies called upon the brethren to salute the Most Worshipful Grand Master with the Grand Honours three times.

Tune—60 A. and M.

Let our theme of praise ascending,
 Blend in music's lofty strain,
 Peal in echoes never ending,
 Soaring through the starry main.

Learning dawned, its light arose,
 Thus the Truth assailed its foes,
 Till the Earth, with one accord,
 Shall adore and praise the Lord.

“The S. Grand Warden then in the West proclaimed the Installation, after sound of trumpet, the Grand Director of Ceremonies called upon the brethren to salute the Most Worshipful Grand Master with the Grand Honours twice.

Faith and Hope began to banish
 Doubt and soul-appalling fear,
 Error in their beams will banish,
 Spreading, shining still more clear.
 Learning dawned, its light arose,
 Thus the Truth assailed its foes,
 Till the earth with one accord,
 Shall adore and praise the Lord.

“The J. Grand Warden then in the South proclaimed the Installation, after sound of trumpet, the Grand Director of Ceremonies called upon the brethren to salute the Most Worshipful Grand Master with the Grand Honors once.

Darkness clouded every nation,
 Mortals roamed without a guide,
 All was gloom and desolation,
 Not a ray could be described.
 Learning dawned, its light arose,
 Thus the Truth assailed its foes,
 Till the Earth with one accord,
 Shall adore and praise the Lord.

“The M. W. G. M. of South Australia then delivered a very eloquent address, in the course of which he said: M. W. G. M., M. W. Pro. G. M., R. W. D. G. M., and R. W. brethren all,—It is to my mind a very appropriate and delightful termination to my holiday in your charming island to find myself on the floor of a lodge amongst so many brethren to witness the ceremony of the installation of your M. W. G. M. I confess, when I saw that I was expected to give an address myself, that my heart sank within me. On one occasion the late Earl of Beaconsfield said he was not one whose pleasure consisted in writing letters and making speeches, and he (the speaker) was entirely at one with that gentleman in that respect. Yet, he usually spent about 364 days of the year in speaking, and the remainder of his spare time was spent in inditing letters. It was, however, some compensation to him that he should have the great pleasure and privilege of being the first member of any other Grand Lodge to present his congratulations to the M. W. G. M. on his own behalf of the South Australian Masons, also in conveying to the brethren the satisfaction he felt on their behalf that they had such a Grand Master to rule over them. He felt satisfaction of a personal kind, as he had taken a small part in that important ceremony when there no less than four Grand Masters present, and when the Grand Lodge of Tasmania became one of the ruling Grand Lodges of

the world. His pleasure was accentuated, because it gave him the privilege of seeing something of Masonry in Launceston, and he was very glad to be present on that occasion. He had witnessed the history of Masonry in Tasmania with considerable interest since that great event to which he had referred. He spoke of the services of their first Grand Master, that scholarly brother, the Rev. R. D. Poulett-Harris, and trusted that he might long be spared to enjoy his well-earned retirement and the love of the brethren wherever he was known. He had witnessed the rise of their lamented G. M., Bro. Giblin—then there was universal sorrow felt throughout Masonry at his death. Some looked upon his life as a broken column, but others looked upon it as a completed column, indicative of grace, beauty, and refinement. He sincerely thought the craft was fortunate in securing the services of their present M. W. G. M. (Bro. C. E. Davies). They knew as well as he of his high social position, of his unblemished character, and of the many services he had rendered to the craft; but on the occasion of that magnificent ceremony held in the town hall, Melbourne, at the installation of His Excellency Lord Brassey as M. W. G. M. of the Grand Lodge of Victoria, he could tell them that everyone was struck with the admirable and dignified manner in which the craft in Tasmania was represented by their M. W. G. M. Long may he live to adorn the position he so worthily filled. Speaking of his own colony, he would say that in common with every part of Australasia they had passed through a period of depression, and during that time they did not expect the craft to increase much numerically. They had in their Grand Lodge a moderate forty-one lodges supported by 2,281 brethren. In Adelaide they had their Masonic hall, but it was not so magnificent in its architecture or commodious in its proportions as the room in which they then were. There was one feature, however, in which they took a modest pride. At the close of the Earl of Kintore's career as Grand Master, and his (the speaker's) accession to the chair, the trustees of that building had the very great pleasure of announcing that the building, with its good rent roll and all that it contained, was a New Year's gift to the craft, and that henceforth the revenue would be entirely devoted to benevolence. (Cheers.) The M. W. G. M. of Tasmania might justly claim to have rule over the most beautiful territory of any part of the Masonic world.

“The South Australian Grand Lodge was much larger, for they possessed two lodges that were 2,300 miles apart, and during last year he had visited two of the country lodges 600 miles apart from each other. In the lodges he had visited he had found a delightful attention and accuracy to the ritual, and he attributed a very great deal of this accuracy to the labors of men who believed in serious Masonry, and who in a spirit of reverence and care had revised their ritual with a desire of lopping off all excrescences and solecisms. He must congratulate the brethren in Tasmania on one point upon which they had the ascendancy over all the other Grand Lodges of Australia. In New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia the Masonic Union was not absolutely complete, for in each of those places lodges exist which had not thrown in their lot with the local Grand Lodge; but in this respect, as well as in many others, Tasmania occupied the van, and was in

the happy position of having all the lodges in the territory under the one Grand Lodge. In conclusion, he trusted that Tasmania would stand forth with all its lustre among the other Grand Lodges in witnessing and manifesting the great Masonic virtues of brotherly love, relief, and truth. (Applause.)

At the Half-yearly Communication held at Hobart, July 29, 1897, the Grand Master delivered an address, from which we take the following :

“ The most important subject that has engaged the attention of the Board of General Purposes was the giving effect to and drafting the alterations rendered necessary in the Book of Constitutions through the establishment of a Board and Fund of Benevolence in connection with our Grand Lodge, as decided in January last.

“ This work you have ratified this evening, and the Board of Benevolence is now an established fact, as the contributions from the different Lodges were due from the 1st July last.

“ The more we reflect upon the the unanimous approval of the Members of the Craft under our jurisdiction, the more gratifying it must be to us all to recognise that we have at length combined cordially and harmoniously in completing our work by placing the keystone upon our Masonic structure.

“ The action of the different Lodges which had Funds of Benevolence in connection with their own Lodges, in handing over their several amounts to the Grand Lodge Benevolent Fund, is, I need hardly assure the Brethren, most satisfactory to me, and has proved, if such proof were necessary, the sincerity and favour with which establishment of the new Board is viewed by them. It may fairly be said that most of the available funds which have hitherto been utilized by different Masonic Benevolence bodies will soon be centralised. The universal desire should be to conserve the funds, and without unnecessary extravagance in relieving all true and necessitous cases, we shall be enabled year after year to encourage the building up of this Fund, which, as it grows, should enable us to extend our sphere of usefulness in the carrying out of one of the greatest principles upon which our Order is founded.

“ As those who have the management of this Fund are selected by the members of Grand Lodge themselves, it is scarcely necessary for me to point out that the utmost confidence should be reposed in those who are placed in these positions of trust and responsibility, as it should ever be borne in mind that they will be equally desirous with each and all of us in the proper conservation of the funds. We must remember, too, that our charity should extend towards each other in the form of brotherly love, for, to my mind, the principle of charity is almost synonymous with that of brotherly love, which implies trust and confidence in each other, and goodwill towards our fellow men. For if we have faith in each other, our hope will inspire confidence that our charity will be well applied.”

Hon. C. E. Davies, M. L. C., G. M.

John Hamilton (Hobart), G. S.

TENNESSEE.

Agriculture, Commerce.

"Blessed be Agriculture, if one does not have too much of it."

84th Communication, Nashville, January 26, 1898.

A. N. Sloan, G.M. .

He reports four new lodges. They have abolished the system of Grand Representatives. The remarks of the Grand Master on their Home are interesting :

"The Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home is the one great charity which demands the attention and kindest regards of every Mason in this jurisdiction. I believe the action of the Grand Lodge, one year ago, in regard to this noble work has met the approval of all well-thinking Masons throughout the state. The maintenance of a Home for the widow and orphan is a recognized necessity, and I am glad to note that many more of the States are moving rapidly in this direction. I am proud of the fact that Tennessee did not follow in this great work, but was numbered in the front rank.

"The Board of Control, which I appointed, as provided by the resolutions adopted regarding the Home, consisting of Brothers John C. Kennedy, Chairman; Charles H. Eastman, W. J. Wallace and Marcus B. Toney, can not be too highly commended for their work and fidelity to the trust placed in their hands. Their report, which will be submitted to this Grand Lodge, will speak for itself. They have so endeared themselves to the inmates of the Home that the common expression from them is more like that of a child to a beloved parent than to a guardian. I had the pleasure of spending one day at the Home, and must commend the Superintendent, and all connected with its management, for the thorough and systematic manner of its government.

"The report of the present very efficient Board of Control (which I have had the privilege of seeing) is an admirable document. Every item of expense is shown. There is no such item as 'incidentals.' The fraternity can see at a glance everything connected with that institution for the past year. Their system has been perfect, their zeal unmeasured, and their devotion to the Home abounding.

"During the year I have had some few lodges to strenuously object to the fifty cents per annum assessment for the Home; but in almost every case I have found that they were lodges whose representative has invariably drawn out more mileage and *per diem* than they have paid into the Grand Lodge treasury. My observation is that an overwhelmingly majority of the Masons of the State are rejoiced at the action taken by the Grand Lodge one year ago regarding the Widows' and Orphans' Home."

Great good has been accomplished by the Board of Custodians and the operations of the District Lecturers in the improvement of the work and the increase of interest among the members.

There are 99 inmates in the Home, and the average cost of maintenance is \$4.61 per inmate per month.

The report on Correspondence is again by Bro. George H. Morgan. Canada for 1897 has favorable mention.

Lodges, 429; members, 17,588; decrease, 94.

William H. Bumpas (Nashville), G. M.

John B. Garrett (Nashville), G. S.

TEXAS.

"Hospitality sitting with pleasure."

62nd Communication, Houston, Dec. 7, 1897.

A. B. Watkins, G. M.

The year has been one of peculiar peace and quietude to the craft. Three new lodges were formed. In his able and eloquent address, the Grand Master says:

"The first thought which meets us here is, have we as Masons progressed with the passing years? Have we kept step with that vanguard of honor, leading men up to higher things? Is there yet a place or a need of Masonry in our civil and social life?"

"It is not enough that we as Masons point to our acts of charity and benevolence and answer that in the year that has passed we have relieved the distressed, comforted the sick, provided for the needy and buried the dead.

"We may recall with just pride that Masonic Lodges in Texas have expended more money in the actual relief of the needy and distressed than any other organization in the State; that the interests and rent of our magnificent properties are perpetually dedicated to charity alone; and that we will shortly begin building a home for orphans commensurate with the demands of our great State.

"But acts of benevolence should not be the only aim or the chief duty of a Mason. Let it be remembered that the great Masonic edifice which we erect is not built of stone and mortar, or money, or acts benevolent alone; but first of all it is founded upon pure and honorable characters and clean and upright lives. It is not only our duty to seek the light and preserve the light, but to disseminate the light, and this last we are taught is best reflected through honored and useful lives.

"Let it rather be our pride that the law-breaker and the libertine, the gambler and the drunkard, the disreputable and the dishonest, find no fellowship among us; that the highest qualifications for a worker among us is a pure heart and 'clean hands.' In helpfulness of others let us not forget to uplift ourselves."

On the physical qualifications of candidates, he says:

"First—Since there is in fact no physically perfect man in existence, there should be some easily and clearly defined rule; and since the trivial injury of some member is in a physical sense in no way as serious as many unobservable bodily infirmities where the limbs are whole, that such rule should not apply rigorously to

external defects where they are not such as to disqualify the candidate from conforming literally to all the requirements of the ceremonies of the several degrees of Ancient Craft Masonry.

Second—I further conceive that, being charitable in our purposes, we should not permit a membership that, from weakness, effeminacy or infirmity, are likely to become a burden to the lodge, or who are incapable of helping others than themselves. Still, where the internal qualifications are perfect and the above rule is applicable, I believe that he ought to be eligible.

“I feel the more confirmed in these views from the fact that they are held by more than three-fourths of the Grand Jurisdictions of the United States and of the world—and because the Grand Lodge of England, the mother Grand Lodge of Freemasonry, not only adheres to it now, but I am informed has so done from time out of mind.”

As they are so close to Mexico, his remarks on Masonry in that country are entitled to great weight :

“Early in January, 1897, I received from the Secretary of the Grand Dieta of Mexico, through Past Grand Master J. H. McLeary, a notification that certain lodges in Mexico, eight in number, had become dissatisfied with the decree of the Grand Dieta, in which was ordered the immediate and perpetual expulsion of women from Masonry and imposing the obligation of placing the open Bible upon the altar, and had on that account rebelled against said Grand Dieta, and were by said body declared clandestine. I thereupon directed the Grand Secretary to issue notices to the subordinate lodges of the State not to receive as visitors any members of said lodges or to visit or recognize them. Later I was informed by the Grand Secretary of the Grand Dieta that George Washington Lodge, Number 195, of San Luis Potosi, had returned to the allegiance of the Grand Dieta and that its members are in good standing.

“Later I received from D. D. G. M. Bro. Pew, of El Paso, an application from Washington-Hidalgo Lodge of Chihuahua, Mexico, one of the lodges so declared irregular to El Paso Lodge No. 130, for waiver of jurisdiction over an Entered Apprentice belonging to same. I instructed a peremptory refusal. In the meantime I received from certain parties in Chihuahua, purporting to represent the Grand Lodge ‘Casinos’ (which I was afterward informed claimed only two subordinate lodges), protesting against one of its said lodges being declared irregular. I replied among other things that it was an universal Masonic law that there could be but one Sovereign Grand Lodge in any given territory, and since the Grand Lodge of Texas had so recognized the Grand Dieta and was exercising fraternal relations with it, that I could not recognize any other.”

Doctors differ. Bro. Singleton, of the District of Columbia, says that they recognized no less than *nine* Grand Lodges in Mexico at one time, and he is the Grand Representative of eight of them.

There was a large number of cases before the committees on Grievances and Appeals. If we have any right

to express an opinion on so domestic a matter, we might suggest to our Texan brethren that the unnecessarily full details of the trials are not pleasant reading, and their publication can serve no useful purpose.

Resolutions were proposed providing that liquor dealers should not be eligible for membership, but they were defeated by the adoption of the following minority report :

"A minority of your special committee to whom was submitted the resolution of Bro. S. M. Templeton proposing a new qualification for membership in our order, not being able to agree with a majority of the committee, and believing the proposed legislation unconstitutional and inexpedient, feel constrained to submit this minority report. In our opinion, the ancient tests, which have stood unchanged during the centuries that Masonry has existed, are amply secure and satisfactory; and having being incorporated into our fundamental law, cannot be changed without destroying a landmark and violating the Grand Lodge Constitution. We think that (subject to the constitution and ancient landmarks) the subordinate lodges and individuals also should be left undisturbed in the right to decide whom they shall elect to membership. We, therefore, recommend that the resolutions do not pass."

Their Widows' and Orphans' Home is to be located at Fort Worth. The lodge there had offered 200 acres of land and \$5,000. The Home Fund now amounts to to \$124,530.60, of which not less than \$100,000 is to be held permanently as an endowment, thus fully securing the future maintenance of the Home.

Bro. T. M. Matthews reports on Correspondence. Our proceedings were not received.

Lodges, 584; members, 28,483; increase, \$21.

John L. Terrell (Terrell), G. M.

John Watson (Houston), G. S.

UTAH.

"Here ever hum the golden bees,
Underneath full-blossomed trees."

27th Communication, Salt Lake City, January 18th, 1898.

Abram D. Gash, G. M.

In spite of dull times, the Craft has been prosperous and they have gained in membership. Their library has been donated to the city :

"The Public Masonic or Pioneer Library has at last found a place of safety. After a struggle of eight long years it has become the property of the Salt Lake City Corporation, and henceforth will be known as 'The Public Library of Salt Lake City.' The

legal transfer of the books—about ten thousand volumes—was made December 22, 1897, and on January 1, 1898, the property was removed from the Board of Trade Building to the new City Hall. The conveyance filled my heart with joy, because I have good reason to believe that hereafter the library is secure. It will be maintained properly, and with its growth will be in the future as it has been in the past, an educational factor in our city and State. To educate the masses with books and good reading matter was the original intention of the brethren who founded the Masonic Public Library, and that their work was not in vain is shown by the results obtained, and of which the 'changed condition is not the least. It was a noble work and faithfully was it performed by the promoters, who were always heartily and willingly supported by the brethren of Utah. The names of the founders and pioneers shine brightly on the pages of our proceedings from 1874 to 1898, and to their honor the M. W. Grand Master, A. D. Gash, has erected, in his address, a monument that will be noticed and used by the Goddess Cleo when she writes a history of the Public Library of Salt Lake City. My connection with the library being ended, I wish it God speed."

It was decided not to recognize the Grand Lodge of Sweden for the present.

It was ordered that all communication should cease with the Grand Lodge of Peru.

The following motion was carried:—

"*Resolved*, That all insurance associations claiming to be Masonic, or having any name indicating or suggesting Masonry, be, and is hereby declared un-Masonic."

The Grand Secretary presented his 22nd annual report on correspondence, reviewing the proceedings of all the 56 American Grand Lodges, including Canada for 1897. Bro. Diehl thinks that Mexican Masonry is to-day in the same chaotic state as it was ten years ago.

Lodges, 9; members, 790; increase, 27.

Joel F. Hardie (Salt Lake City), G. M.

Christopher Diehl (Salt Lake City), G. S.

VERMONT.

"When Freedom from her mountain height
Untwined her standard to the air,
She tore the azure robe of night
And set the stars of glory there."

104th communication, Burlington, June 8, 1897.

Kittredge Haskins, G. M.

He reports one new lodge and says:—

"The returns made by the subordinate bodies show that an average amount of work has been done, which, considering the "hard times" is full of hope and encouragement for the future. The work of conferring the degrees was never better or more im-

pressively done than now. The lodges take kindly to the 'floor work' as taught by the Grand Lecturer, and I know of none that have practised it that desire to return to the 'go as-you-please' way of meandering about the lodge room. The method formerly in use as compared with the present beautiful 'floor work,' reminds one of the drill and parade of a company of the 'old flood-wood' as compared with the beauty and precision of the military movements of the national guard of to-day."

The district meetings were of uniform excellence, largely attended and showed a marked advance in correctness of work.

The sum \$30,000 was appropriated for the erection of their proposed Masonic Temple at Burlington. This was in addition to the \$50,000 previously voted, and will finish the structure and furnish it. The work is to be prosecuted at once.

Lodges must pay Grand Lodge dues on honorary members:—

"Lodges may or may not provide for dues; they may permit members to commute their dues; they may exempt members from dues, or place them upon the honorary roll, but their membership is not affected thereby.

"The Grand Lodge by-laws provide for an annual assessment against the Subordinate Lodges upon the basis of membership, and no action or failure to act upon the subject of lodge dues, by the subordinate, can affect such basis.

"Every lodge is bound to obey the constitution, by-laws, and resolutions of the Grand Lodge, and in case of an assessment under the by-law in question, the lodge must return the amount computed upon the basis of its *entire membership*."

Bro. Marsh O. Perkins devoted over three pages to a review of our proceedings of 1896. Our opinion as to "calling off," will be found in another place. The Grand Lodge can be "called off," or adjourned to perform public Masonic labor as well as to partake of public Masonic refreshment.

Lodges, 102; members, 9758; increase, 82.

Daniel N. Nicholson (Burlington), G. M.

Warren G. Reynolds (Burlington), G. S.

VICTORIA.

"The name that dwells on every tongue
No minstrel needs."

Quarterly Communication, Melbourne, March 17, 1897.
Lord Brassey, G. M.

Permission was given to a lodge to "go into abeyance" for twelve months.

In an appeal case, it was held that a member who had sent his resignation of membership to the secretary of his lodge, could withdraw it at any time before it has been acted upon.

At the "Grand Anniversary Festival Meeting," held on May 19, 1877, the officers were duly installed. The death was announced of Sir William J. Clarke, Pro. Grand Master.

Quarterly Communication, June 16, 1897.

A National monument is to be erected to the memory of Sir William Clarke, and the Grand Lodge voted 100 guineas towards this object.

Fifty pounds was voted to the Queens Memorial Hospital Fund.

Quarterly Communication, Sept. 15, 1897.

Sixty pounds was voted to the various Melbourne charities.

On the wearing of "Undress Regalia," the Board of General Purposes gave the following deliverance :

"The Undress Regalia referred to in clause 13 of the Board's report of December last has been received from the manufacturers and delivered to the Grand Lodge Officers. The Board having been asked to indicate the occasions upon which the Full Dress and Undress Regalia should respectively be worn, is of opinion that the words 'great ceremonials and festivals,' when the Grand Lodge Officers appear in their official capacities,' in clause 259 of the Book of Constitutions, should only include Installations, Choral Services, Concerts, and all other gatherings when the Grand Lodge Officers are summoned to attend the M. W. the Grand Master, the Pro Grand Master, or the Deputy Grand Master. The Board is, however, also of opinion, that the Grand Lodge Officers should be permitted to wear the Full Dress Regalia at installations, and all social functions held under dispensation, when not summoned; but that upon all other occasions they may wear the Undress Regalia."

The proceedings do not contain the number of lodges on the roll, nor the number of members, so we are unable to ascertain whether the Craft is increasing or not.

Lord Brassey (Melbourne), G. M.

John Brain (Melbourne), G. S.

VIRGINIA.

The Mother of Presidents.

"For the hand that rocks the cradle
Is the hand that rules the world."

120th Communication, Richmond, Dec. 7, 1897.

Alfred R. Courtney, G.M.

A revival of interest is indicated by the formation of no less than eight new lodges, and there are brighter prospects for the future :

"While material prosperity and financial success have not blessed our people in the twelve months last past, yet our list of suspensions for non-payment of dues has not exceeded that of former years, nor have any of our Lodges surrendered their charters for want of the necessary funds to meet current expenses. In addition to this gratifying fact, we have been singularly spared from frequent recurrence of those occasions of heartache and sorrow which come to us when we have to lay away from view the earthly remains of eminent counsellors of our household."

Their Masonic Home is now an established institution. The Grand Master gives a statement of the contributions of the lodges and then says :

"This statement shows which lodges have contributed and which have not. It shows that of the 263 chartered lodges only 149 have made any contribution ; while 114 lodges have passed the subject by apparently unnoticed. This statement further shows that the 149 lodges which answered the call for voluntary contributions, having an aggregate membership of 7,395, contributed \$2,187.62, making the average about thirty cents per capita. If the 114 lodges which contributed nothing had done as much as those which contributed the above sum of \$2,187.62 (that is 30 cents per capita), the aggregate would have been about \$4,000, which would be ample for the present support of the Home, and sufficient for the care of all the inmates that will have to be provided for, for many years to come. I am entirely satisfied with the result of this first effort at systematizing and concentrating our voluntary contributions ; and am confident that if a similar effort is made next year and the next, our brethren all over the State will come to understand and appreciate it, and after that the system will run itself ; and the necessary amount will thus be raised year by year without being felt "

The Grand Lodges of New Zealand, Tasmania and Victoria were received.

They have 50 District Deputies, and the reports show that their duties have been well performed. They have also three Grand Lecturers, so that the lodges are well taken care of.

In his review of Colorado, Bro. J. E. Alexander has the following remarks on the vexed question on non-affiliation :

"If Masonic standing is only impaired by sentence of a lodge after due trial (Colorado), or is impaired without due trial, by suspension for non-payment of dues (Virginia), what relation in the particular of 'standing' does the non-affiliate bear to the Masonic Fraternity under the other laws, last mentioned, of Virginia, Colorado and other Jurisdictions ?

"Good standing is generally understood to entitle a brother to

all the rights and benefits of Masonry. Bro. Fellows says: 'The non-affiliate can only be deprived of lodge benefits but is entitled to all the other benefits which are infinitely superior to lodge benefits strictly speaking.' What are the superior benefits of the non-affiliate in good standing?

" 1. A knowledge of the mysteries of Masonry.

" 2d. The pleasurable enjoyment of reflection upon teachings which lose more than half their charm and are indeed nothing but 'words, words, words,' unless practiced.

" 3d. The right to make himself known to and converse on the subject of Masonry with any brother willing thereto.

" 4th. The right to claim the assistance of any individual Mason, should his necessities require it.

" Are there any other benefits than those mentioned outside of lodge benefits?

" It must not be forgotten that Masonry is not only brotherhood but fellowship in the best sense of the term; if it does not mean that it does not mean anything. For more than one hundred and fifty years lodge organization has been the best and most practical expression of that fellowship, and has been recognized as the best method of successfully fulfilling the great mission of Masonry.

" Fellowship means association, confederation, combination, company, partnership, so say the dictionaries. Non-affiliation has for its taproot disintegration, has no element of fellowship, is repugnant if not antagonistic to the purposes of Masonry, has only the accident of initiation to offer for its brotherhood, and has not accomplished nor can it hope to accomplish anything of magnitude on any line of Masonic life. With rare exceptions, individual effort beyond self, is like atomic effort; never potential except when aggregated.

" It has been said that affiliation cannot be enforced, that non-affiliation is not a Masonic crime, and the question has been asked why inflict a penalty similar to that for criminality? The statements are true and the answer to the question is equally true. For the reason that Masonry is confined to two kinds of discipline for any and all Masonic irregularities, offences or crimes, viz., reprimand and deprivation of Masonic rights and privileges.

If the non-affiliate is at all subject to discipline it must be one of these two, and reprimand cannot be made effective. Of the second there are only three degrees; abridgement, at present practiced by some Grand Jurisdictions, suspension and expulsion. If there is any other form of Masonic discipline which can be applied by a Masonic lodge, will some brother tell us of it?

" It is a fact that a great deal of unnecessary and unappreciated sympathy has been wasted upon a question which could with much more propriety be phrased: Why insist upon the non-affiliate assuming a relation which he does not desire to a fraternity which he does not appreciate?

" Non-affiliation in good standing is a diseased growth upon the body of Masonry and sympathy has only proved a mollifying ointment, with little or no healing properties. The spirit of every obligation or tie of Freemasonry means close, true, helpful and loving fellowship; if it is not so, why the expressions of regret that there are such a large number of non-affiliates? Not a writer

of the Guild believes a non-affiliate is in his right place or is doing his duty by remaining in that relation.

“How would worthy do in place of the words good standing? Or better still, persistently exercise the right of objection and as was said of Ephraim, ‘Let him alone.’”

Lodges, 258; members, 12, 803; increase, 151.

R. T. M. Duke, Jr. (Charlottesville), G. M.

Geo. M. Carrington (Richmond), G. S.

WASHINGTON.

Al-ki. Bye-Eye.

“One always returns to his first love.”

10th communication, June 8, 1897.

Yancey C. Blalock, G. M.

On the previous evening, the Grand Secretary had completed his fiftieth year as a Master Mason, whereupon the Grand Lodge passed the following resolution unanimously by a rising vote, amidst many warm expressions of congratulation and fraternal regard:—

“*Resolved*, That as a Grand Lodge we congratulate M. W. Bro. Reed upon the completion of his first half-century as a Master Mason; we recognize his inestimable services to Masonry throughout the whole history of this Grand Lodge, and we tender him our most hearty good wishes for his happiness and prosperity in the years to come.”

Bro. William H. Upton employed all his spare time in the production of an annotated code, a work of enormous labor, and which met the approval of the Grand Lodge in a very gratifying manner.

A remarkable “Family Affair” is thus stated:—

“The M. W. Grand Master announced, by request, that on the third Friday of this month, June 13, Ionic Lodge, No. 90, of Seattle, would confer the third degree, and invited to attend the communication all brethren who could find it convenient to do so; and the Grand Master added that on that occasion the Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden and the candidate would be father, senior son, second son and junior son, respectively as follows: Louis Schoenfeld (father), W. M., Ralph A. Schoenfeld (senior brother), S. W., Berman Schoenfeld (second elder brother), J. W., Herbert A. Schoenfeld (third—baby—brother), candidate.

“The announcement was received with applause, and the Grand Secretary was requested to make a note of it in the Proceedings.”

It was made a Masonic offence for a Mason in this jurisdiction to enter into the business of selling intoxicating liquors, with a proviso that the regulation should not apply to Masons now in that business.

The sum of \$100 was appropriated for the prosecution of imposters and frauds who have of late defrauded Masonic relief committees and brethren in Washington.

A motion for \$500 for a Grand Lecturer was lost.

On account of the expense, the report on Correspondence this year is much shorter than usual. Bro. Upton has discovered (with the rest of us), that it requires much more time and labor to prepare a satisfactory short report than one whose length is not limited.

Lodges, 101; members, 4,649; decrease, 342.

Archibald W. Frater (Suohomish), G. M.

Thomas M. Reed (Olympia), G. S.

WEST VIRGINIA.

Libertas et fidelitas.

“True as the needle to the pole,
Or as the dial to the sun.”

33rd Communication, Charleston, Nov. 9, 1897.

B. D. Gibson, G. M.

The Grand Master gives some good advice.

“With some exceptions, the lodges are harmonious and carrying out the sublime principles of our fraternity. But I am very sorry to announce that in several sections of the State there is more prosperity among the lodges than there is harmony; more making of Masons than observance of the lessons taught in the lodge room. In the lodge we learn how Masons, without regard to religious beliefs or political ties, should meet and greet each other on the level of brotherly love, act by the plumb line of rectitude, and part upon the square of virtue and morality. There will probably be several appeals for the Grand Lodge to determine. Two are from stormy trials, if I am correctly informed. I hope you will act decisively, if the accused are shown to be guilty of disgracing the good name of Freemasonry.

“I call upon the members of the lodges to think more of what it means to be a Mason; how noble, how exalted a station in life he occupies; what duties and self-control his obligations impose; allow no discords; prevent dissensions; act together in amity and peace, walking uprightly before God and man. In many lodges there is a lamentable lack of interest in the work—a seeming want of appreciation of the beauties of our ritual. I fear it is due to neglect. Exemplifications of the work, and special lectures on esoteric points would enliven lodge life. I believe members would enjoy lodge meetings much more, if they kept posted on the progress of the Order and the discussions of the various questions agitating the minds of the Masonic students in sister Grand Jurisdictions as presented in the admirable report of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence, wherein will be found instructive and impressive reading in a spicy and charming style.”

He issued three dispensations for new lodges and made a Professor, the President of Shepherd College, a Mason at sight.

The Grand Secretary records the death of Bro. Thomas Thornburg, who was initiated in 1851, had filled every official position in his lodge and was its Secretary for 39 years.

It was deemed inexpedient to agitate further at present for the establishment of a Masonic Orphans' Home.

The committee on work reported as follows :

"The Committee on Work, consisting of the Grand Lecturer and his Deputies, would respectfully report that they have held a School of Instruction for the past two days.

"The work of conferring the three degrees, including the lectures, has been fully exemplified, and the classes have been thoroughly drilled in the several catechisms.

"A careful comparison of the work was first had with the Deputies, so as to insure uniformity of teaching. We find an increasing approach to uniformity in the manner of conferring degrees, as well as in the whole Ritual. We are glad to be able to report an increased interest in learning the work, as shown by the number in attendance upon the classes, as well as by the close attention given to the instructions.

"The whole of this afternoon was devoted to the instruction of the brethren at large.

"The only portion of the Grand Master's address which specially invites the attention of this committee is that part thereof which refers to his action in making Masons at sight. While the question of Masonic law involved in such action is a proper subject for consideration by another committee of this body, yet this committee thinks it advisable to recommend to the Grand Masters that whatever may be the law as to the prerogatives of the Grand Master in such cases, it is one that should be exercised with great caution and only in extreme emergency. In the case reported by the Grand Master, your committee is of the opinion, from the address of the Grand Master, that the greatest care and caution was exercised by him."

The proposition from Maine, limiting the effect of a rejection to five years, lacked only one vote of the necessary two-thirds majority.

Bro. G. W. Atkinson believes that Canada is one of the most thorough-going Masonic bodies on this continent, and says :

"Two hundred closely printed pages are occupied with the reports of District Deputies. These reports, as I have found them in former years, are marvelous for details. They show the exact condition of every lodge, and show with great precision everything which was done during the year. I do not wonder that this Grand Lodge prospers."

In his review of Kentucky, Bro. Atkinson says :

"It will take stronger arguments than I have yet seen to convince me that because a lodge rejects the application of a candidate, that said lodge shall have the power to prevent said candidate from applying to another lodge for membership without the consent of the rejecting lodge. To my mind this is entirely too exacting. There should be some limit. Not a six months or one year rule such as has been adopted by some of our Western Grand Lodges, but a reasonable limit. The proposition submitted by the Grand Lodge of Maine to restrict it to five years, I regard as reasonable ; and I am greatly gratified that a considerable number of our Grand Lodges have adopted it. Others will follow later on."

Shortly after the adjournment of the Grand Lodge, Bro. Odell S. Long was called away from his earthly labors. He was easily first in attainments of all the brethren of his jurisdiction, and his loss will be sincerely regretted. We extend our sympathy.

Lodges, 110 ; members, 5,983 ; increase, 156.

S. N. Myers (Martinsburg), G. M.

Geo. M. Atkinson (Charleston), G. S.

WISCONSIN.

*"Forward, forward, let the Badgers range,
Let the great world spin forever
Down the ringing grooves of change."*

53rd Communication, Milwaukee, June 8, 1897.

Aldro Jenks, G. M.

We quote the opening paragraphs of the address :

"During the past year peace and harmony have prevailed and prosperity has attended our efforts. We now number in this Grand Jurisdiction 237 chartered lodges and two under dispensation, with a total membership of 16,937, a net gain of 529 members during the year ending January 1, 1897.

"This increase of membership is very gratifying, but is of little value or importance without the teachings of Masonry have found a lodgment in the hearts of the initiates so as to become a part of their daily life. The brightest Mason is not the one who becomes proficient in the lectures and ritual ; who so commits them as to have them at the tongue's end ; but the one who makes Masonry the rule and guide of his daily walk and conduct.

"To no purpose do we teach that truth is a divine attribute and the foundation of every virtue, if hypocrisy and deceit characterize our conduct. In vain do we talk of the beauties of charity if we close our purses and withhold our alms whenever distress prefers its suit. It is useless to prate about temperance being one of the cardinal virtues unless we regulate our lives according to the dictates of reason ; and it is worse than a mockery to talk of our belief in and reverence for God, if our mouths are filled with blasphemies and our lives with uncleanness

"No matter how finely a bond may be engraved, without there is worth behind it it will be dishonored, while the beauty of an Apollo cannot atone for the want of virtue or integrity. So with Masonry; we cannot rely alone upon the perfection of its teachings, or the beauty of its ritual, but, if we would have Masonry honored, we must by the purity of our lives, and the uprightness of our conduct, make it worthy of honor. If we, as individual Masons, will do this, we can benefit our beloved Order to a greater extent than is possible by any mere increase of numbers. That would take care of itself. The better elements of society would be irresistibly attracted to us, and we can well afford to do without those who are less desirable."

The Grand Master reports two new lodges. He refused to permit a lodge to attend Easter service in Masonic clothing. He also refused to permit a lodge to attend in Masonic clothing a funeral conducted by the Knights Templar.

The committee on Masonic Relief, with Bro. William C. Swain as Chairman, reported progress. They think that there seems to be a general tendency to confound the two principles of Masonic Charity and Masonic Relief, and that the former is broader than any system of relief, and "might be studied with advantage by some of those who have commented on the Wisconsin proposition." Their report concludes as follows:

"We are pleased to report that our proposition is gaining ground, though slowly. It has been formally adopted by the jurisdictions of California, Arizona, Montana, Nebraska, Wyoming and Wisconsin; while Connecticut, Missouri and South Carolina have practically the same system.

"We are of opinion that other jurisdictions, as soon as they can disabuse their minds of the erroneous impression that it is intended to relieve Masons of their individual obligations, and that it is an innovation in Masonry, will fall into line. In nearly all the Grand Lodges the subject is under discussion, and we hope the principle will ultimately prevail, as the only method yet proposed, which will ensure relief at a minimum of cost."

The Grand Lodge re-affirmed its condemnation of the un-masonic practice of soliciting candidates.

Bro. M. L. Youngs has been Grand Lecturer for 40 years. He truly says that the best portion of his life has been spent in the service of the Grand Lodge. He held 50 schools of instruction during the year and visited 60 lodges.

A revised Constitution was adopted.

The sum of \$100.00 was voted to the Children's Home Society of the State of Wisconsin.

There is no report on Correspondence.

Lodges, 237; members, 16,946; increase, 538.
 Nathan C. Giffin (Fond du Lac), G. M.
 John W. Laflin (Milwaukee, G. S.

WYOMING.

Cedant arma togæ.

"Peace hath her victories
 No less renowned than war."

23rd Communication, Rawlins, Sept. 14, 1897.
 DeForest Richards, G. M.

On the condition of the Craft, he has the following :

"I extend the hand of fellowship and brotherly love to all, feeling that there has been a marked improvement, in not only the condition of our society in this jurisdiction since our last communication, but that general conditions, which concern all our people, have improved to a marked extent during that time. For four years and more the hand of adversity has lain heavily upon our people, but the horizon now presents a brighter glow. Almost every thing we have in the State of Wyoming for sale has advanced in value; business has improved on every hand, and we now have a right to hope that there is in store for us a return of that prosperity that makes the heart glad, and which goes so far toward the improvement of our affairs and our membership, as a Masonic organization."

The Grand Secretary reports returns and dues received from every lodge, showing that they have prompt and earnest secretaries.

The date of meeting of the Grand Lodge was changed from the second Tuesday in September to the second Wednesday.

They took no action on the Maine proposition as to the effect of a rejection, as their own law is practically in conformity with that proposal.

Bro. William L. Kuykendall presented his usual excellent report on Correspondence. In his notice of Alabama he has the following on avouchment :

"We believe in limiting avouchment. Under present system there is entirely too much latitude allowed. We believe that where one Mason personally vouches for another he should have sat in open lodge with him within the preceding year, and if his avouchment is upon lawful information the same rule should be applied to the informant. Neither should he be permitted to vouch for any one simply because he sat in lodge with him a number of years before. In this age many wonderful things occur within a very short space of time, and this applies as well to the standing of Masons in their lodges as to anything else."

And under the head of California :

"It is nearly time for some brother to come forward with a ceremony covering cremation. We are surprised that such has not been offered long ago. Probably no Smart Alec has thought of it."

He reviews the Proceedings of Canada for 1896. We find the following under "North Dakota" :

"We are of the opinion that our brother the Grand Secretary, successfully worked a scheme for the appointment of an interlocutor and the Grand Lecturer to act as critic in the exemplification of the secret work in Grand Lodge. We can imagine the absence of a smile upon the serene countenances of the Grand Master, Grand Secretary, Grand Lecturer and the interlocutor when it was announced that the latter would begin at one end of the hall and ask the questions of the several lectures of each brother in turn, who was to answer, the Grand Lecturer to correct all mistakes. We imagine prayers to be excused for a short time came thick and fast. No doubt a few wanted to see their uncle around the corner, others desired to see a man and pressing business was the wail of others, whilst numbers like the Arab silently folded their tents and stole away without excuse. A large number, however, remained and here the laugh came in at the hegira, the principal jokers leading in that exercise. We can picture the stampede that would occur in other Grand Lodges if the same scheme was attempted."

Lodges, 15; members, 1011; decrease, 12.
E. P. Rohrbaugh (Cheyenne), G. M.
William L. Kuykendall (Saratoga), G. S.

CONCLUSION.

Our work is before you. We have spared neither time nor trouble in endeavouring to give a succinct, as well as comprehensive account of the state of Masonry in the various jurisdictions with whom we are in correspondence. We have reason to rejoice at the general prosperity of the fraternity. It is worthy of all our best efforts.

"Hence harmony springs, 'tis the cement of love,
Fair freedom on earth and bright union above."

All of which is respectfully submitted,

HENRY ROBERTSON,

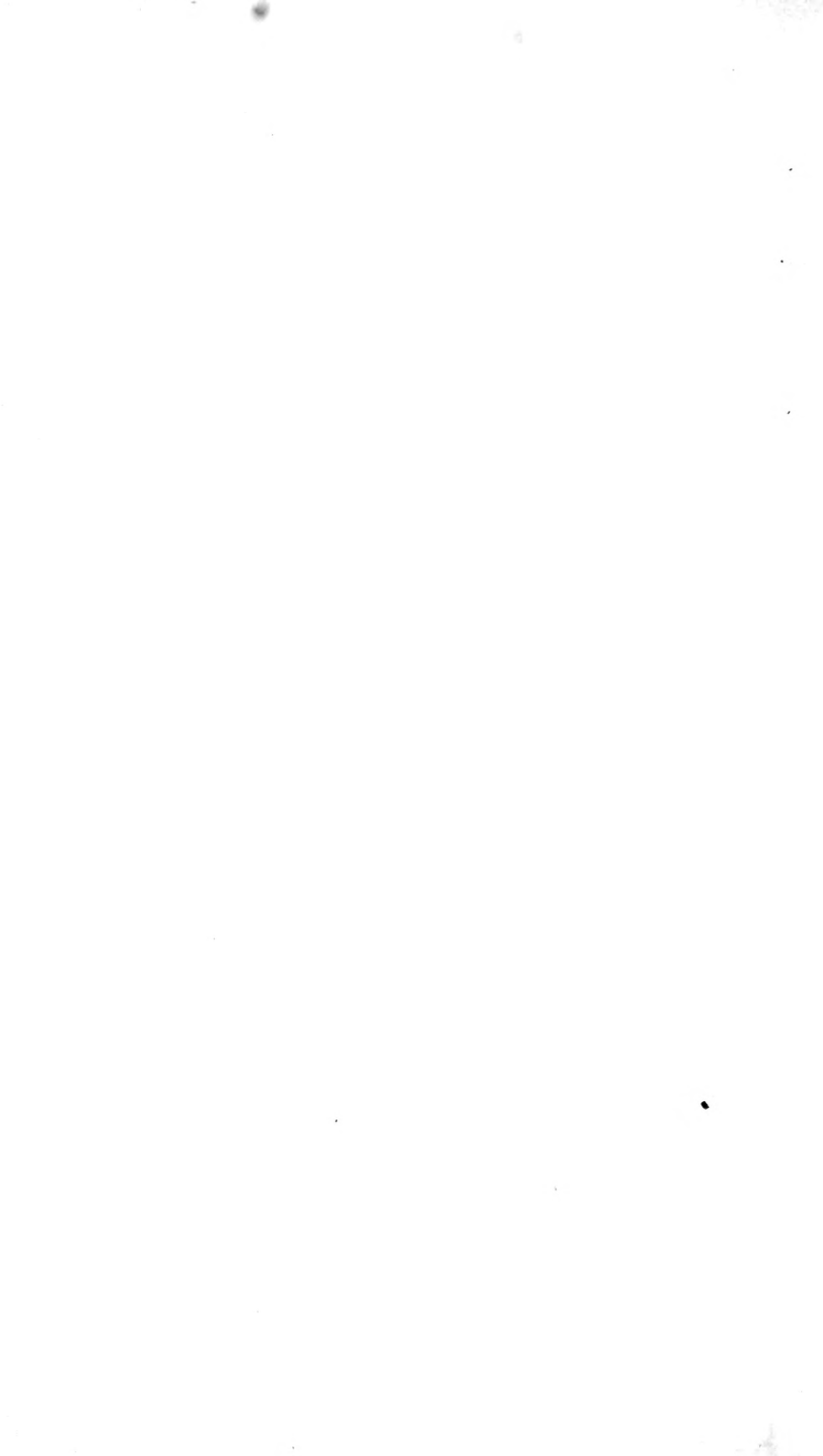
Secretary.

Collingwood, June 24, 1898.

LIST OF PROCEEDINGS REVIEWED.

| | | | |
|------------------------|------|-----------------------|------|
| Alabama..... | 1897 | New Brunswick..... | 1897 |
| Arizona..... | 1897 | New Hampshire..... | 1897 |
| Arkansas..... | 1897 | New Jersey..... | 1898 |
| British Columbia..... | 1897 | New Mexico..... | 1897 |
| California..... | 1897 | New South Wales ... | 1897 |
| Colorado..... | 1897 | New York..... | 1897 |
| Connecticut..... | 1898 | New Zealand..... | 1897 |
| Delaware..... | 1897 | North Carolina..... | 1898 |
| District of Columbia.. | 1897 | North Dakota..... | 1797 |
| Florida..... | 1898 | Nova Scotia..... | 1897 |
| Georgia..... | 1897 | Ohio..... | 1897 |
| Idaho..... | 1897 | Oregon..... | 1897 |
| Illinois..... | 1897 | Pennsylvania..... | 1897 |
| Indiana..... | 1897 | Prince Edward Island. | 1897 |
| Indian Territory..... | 1897 | Quebec..... | 1898 |
| Iowa..... | 1897 | Rhode Island..... | 1897 |
| Kansas..... | 1898 | South Carolina..... | 1897 |
| Kentucky..... | 1897 | South Dakota..... | 1897 |
| Louisiana..... | 1898 | Tasmania..... | 1897 |
| Main..... | 1897 | Tennessee..... | 1898 |
| Manitoba..... | 1897 | Texas..... | 1897 |
| Maryland..... | 1897 | Utah..... | 1898 |
| Massachusetts..... | 1897 | Vermont..... | 1897 |
| Michigan..... | 1898 | Victoria..... | 1897 |
| Minnesota..... | 1898 | Virginia..... | 1897 |
| Missouri..... | 1897 | Washington..... | 1897 |
| Montana..... | 1897 | West Virginia..... | 1897 |
| Nebraska..... | 1897 | Wisconsin..... | 1897 |
| Nevada..... | 1897 | Wyoming..... | 1897 |

The only proceedings not received at the time of closing this report are those of Mississippi for 1898 and Oklahoma for 1898.





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